

**COMMENT OF
THE DAY**

Considerations

WHETHER or not Mr Foster Dulles' broad hint made at his Paris press conference that, unless France ratifies the EDC treaty the United States would have to consider a revision of her "aid to Europe" policy, is at variance with decisions reached at Bermuda, most people will consider the statement to be tactless and ill-timed. If the American Secretary of State considered it necessary to utter his warning, surely the proper audience should have been the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation which is now in session. By selecting an unofficial press conference as the medium for giving expression to his views, Mr Dulles has left Whitehall "silently embarrassed," and the Quai d'Orsay bewildered. That the American Administration avidly desires French ratification of the EDC pact is fully understood. There are critics in plenty throughout the United States of the American foreign aid policies and they follow two schools of thought: that US assistance should be cut off if the beneficiaries fail to live up to their obligations, and that the same action be taken where the recipients continue to have trade dealings with Communist countries. Washington, therefore, believes that continued full US aid to Western Europe can only be justified in the eyes of the American public if the free continental powers reach an effective alliance under which they assume a proper share of responsibility for maintaining military defences. What is perhaps not fully appreciated is the mutual suspicions which continue to exist between France and Western Germany; moreover, the Schuman Plan, from which emerged the European Defence Community treaty was never embraced by the French with the same enthusiasm as by the people of West Germany. A further factor which mitigates against ratification of the pact is the insecurity of any French Government in the National Assembly. The political composition of the Assembly is too segmentary to guarantee any Premier a decisive vote on controversial issues; wherefore the will of the people cannot easily express itself. These are circumstances which have to be taken into consideration by the outside world.

Britain Concerned Over Franco-US Divergencies

RISK OF SPLIT IN WESTERN ALLIANCE SEEN

Conscription For S'pore: Bill Passed

Singapore, Dec. 16. Britain's great strategic base in the Far East, is to have its own army under a bill passed unanimously yesterday by the Singapore Legislative Council.

A second bill similarly passed will introduce national service into the colony and so make the creation of local military forces possible.

The callup scheme will be implemented as soon as certain administrative arrangements are made. The first age group, to be called up will be that which will least interfere with the ordinary careers or education of young men.

The Singapore military forces will be a citizen army built up by part-time training in peace and ready for mobilisation in war.

Mr W. A. C. Goode, Colonial Secretary, who moved the adoption of both bills, told the Council that "unless our young men are prepared to accept this obligation to defend Singapore, we cannot build adequate defence forces."

Earlier he said: "We shall be deluding ourselves if we think that the defence of Singapore can be limited to the small area of the island. We must put our local forces unreservedly at the disposal of the military commander to be used to the best advantage in fighting our battle whether the battle is to be fought on the island or on the mainland."

This was an answer to those who contended conscripts should serve only in Singapore.

For this reason the bill authorises the General Officer Commanding the new forces to place them under the command of any officer of the Queen's regular forces.—Reuter.

Jordanian Patrol Fired On

Amman, Dec. 15. The Arab Legion headquarters reported tonight that Jews had fired on a Jordanian patrol in the Hebron district. The political composition of the Assembly is too segmentary to guarantee any Premier a decisive vote on controversial issues; wherefore the will of the people cannot easily express itself. These are circumstances which have to be taken into consideration by the outside world.



M. BIDAULT

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

M. Bidault Accepts Nomination

Paris, Dec. 15.—The French Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault, tonight accepted the invitation of the Christian Democrat (MRP) group to be a candidate for the Presidency of the French Republic.

In accepting, M. Bidault said that the invitation sent to him by his friends had been couched in such terms that he could not refuse.

He promised not to abandon any of the principles for which he had fought and to strive for the unity and greatness of France while maintaining an impartiality of mind and judgment if he was elected to be head of state.—France-Press.

Youth Attacked By Soldiers

Paris, Dec. 15. Two American soldiers attacked in the streets of Metz in Eastern France last night a 19-year-old French boy, Claude Bollonski.

The two soldiers are James Lane, born in 1929 in South Carolina, and Johnny Vanmeter, born in 1932 in Washington, both belonging to the 874th Quartermaster of the Tournelle camp near Metz.

Two persons who tried to rescue the boy were also attacked, and one of them was struck with a knife. The two soldiers are now in the custody of the military police.—France-Press.

London, Dec. 15. British diplomatic quarters viewed with considerable concern today the serious divergences between France and the United States disclosed at yesterday's meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Council.

The statement of Mr John Foster Dulles, United States Secretary of State, that failure to ratify the European Army treaty soon would cause "an agonising reappraisal" of the basic American policy was considered here as a solemn warning to France made in the full knowledge of American internal politics.

Mr Dulles' words were taken in conjunction with the warning given by M. Georges Bidault, the French Foreign Minister, that if the EDC was not given an outside "counter weight and guarantors," the six nations might abandon it and revert to the national "framework of the pact."

Between these two attitudes, these quarters saw the risk of a serious split in the Western alliance in the coming year.

The Foreign Office spokesman declined comment today on Mr Dulles' warning, which French quarters have called an ultimatum, except to say that the United States was fully entitled to express its views on Western defence, to which it was making a large financial contribution.

Many officials privately wondered whether Mr Dulles' words would not produce an effect opposite to their intention. They recalled that last January similar United States pressure on Europe to hasten its integration failed to achieve its object.

The British Government has always warmly supported the EDC with which Britain is to be closely associated in both military and political fields, but its leaders have, unlike Mr Dulles, publicly acknowledged the alternative of West German entry into NATO.

Observers feel that if France were to accept this, or to put any other suggestion enabling Germany to make a contribution to Western defence, Britain would be broadly satisfied and would oppose any lessening of American commitments in Europe.

UNEASINESS

The making of United States interests in Europe strictly dependent on the EDC would not therefore be welcome to Britain. But there was also some uneasiness about M. Bidault's plea for outside guarantors for the EDC herself. Britain has pledged herself to the closest collaboration with the six-nation organisation and has agreed to consult it before any withdrawal of her troops from the European continent.

Under the Brussels Treaty she is also pledged to support France and the Benelux countries if they are attacked. But she has refused to station her troops on the continent for any fixed period.

Her worldwide commitments and the possibility of renewed Communist aggression in the Far East.

(Contd. on Back Page, Col. 5)

6-Year-Old Girl Is Burglar's Accomplice

Paris, Dec. 15. A suburban merchant found a demure six-year-old girl standing guard outside his apartment last night while her father ransacked the interior, the Police reported.

Later, officers captured Jacques Montauzier, 23, the girl's father, and accused him of taking little Ghislane Montauzier along on widely burgling expeditions.

The merchant, Emile Vandeu, was struck by Ghislane's part appearance when he saw her in the hall outside his door last night. He asked her what she was doing.

The girl replied she was waiting for her father.

Inside, Vandeu, found his apartment stripped of all its valuables. A neighbour's flat had received the same treatment.

"A GRAND TIME"
The merchant took the girl to a neighbourhood Police station where she told the desk Sergeant:

"My daddy and I have a grand time. Every Thursday and Sunday (the days when Paris schools are closed) we go out together and play pinball machines in a cafe and later my daddy takes me to fine houses where I wait for him while he goes inside with a lovely blue sack. And when I'm tired my daddy takes me home in a real taxi."

The Police picked up the girl's father at a cafe, still carrying the blue sack. It was crammed with other people's property, the officers said.

Later, at the Montauzier home, the Police found an allegedly stolen electric train wrapped up and ready for delivery to Ghislane on Christmas morning.—United-Press.

Pella And Eden Discuss Trieste

Paris, Dec. 15. The Italian Premier, Signor Giuseppe Pella, this afternoon discussed Trieste and other problems with the British Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden.

Tomorrow morning, Signor Pella will meet Mr John Foster Dulles, the United States Secretary of State.—France-Press.

Heralding Christmas



Seen during a parade in the streets of Zurich, Switzerland, are these schoolboys dressed in weird and wonderful costumes, part of the traditional Santa Claus processions. The strange headwear worn by the boys are illuminated from the inside, giving the impression of Christmas lanterns.—London Express.

Federalists Leading In Elections

Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, Dec. 15.

Early results declared in Central Africa's first Federal Elections today brought quick gains for Sir Godfrey Huggins, Federal Party and support for his policy of "race partnership."

One of the first defeats for the Confederate Party, which campaigned for segregation, was the electorate's rejection of Mr Hovel Meier, the Northern Rhodesian Confederate Party leader.

He polled only 382 votes against his Federal opponent's 1,819 at Nkana, 30 miles from Ndola in the Western area of Northern Rhodesia.

Less than four hours after voting for the 20 ordinary elected members' seats had stopped, the Federal Party had registered five successes, the Confederates none and the Independents one.

About 67,000 people had the vote out of the 9,250,000 in the Federation of the two Rhodesias and Nyasaland.

Just over a third of the 175,000 Europeans could vote and there were 444 African voters out of the 6,000,000 Africans.

Though there were independent standing, the election was really a straight fight between the Federal "Partnership" Party and Mr J. R. Denehy Young's Confederate "Segregation" Party.

Five hours after the polling stations had closed the state of the parties at 0030 local time (2230 GMT), was: Federal Party 10 seats, Independents 1, Confederates none.

Of the votes counted 14,318 had gone to the Federal Party, 4,993 to the Confederate Party, and 873 to Independents.

The number of ballot papers was not known.—China Mail Special.

Christmas Strike May Be Averted

London, Dec. 15. Hope grew tonight that the Government will avert a strike by 400,000 railwaymen which threatens a chaotic Christmas for Britain due to start at midnight on Sunday.

Sir Walter Monckton, Minister of Labour, told the House of Commons today that talks with the British Transport Commission and the National Union of Railwaymen were still continuing.

Sir Walter Monckton's statement came halfway through a day of negotiations aimed at settling the threatened strike. Later today he was meeting union leaders at a conference which might produce a formula to avert the strike.

Meanwhile the NUR leaders went ahead with their plans to make the strike as widespread as possible. The NUR had repeatedly stressed that its aim is restricted to obtaining a 15 per cent pay rise for members and it would call off the strike at any time if this rise, or something very near to it were granted.

A claim for 15 per cent rise was lodged last August.

The Commission rejected it but the Railway Tribunal awarded an increase of four shillings sterling a week per worker which the Commission accepted but the union rejected.

The 15 per cent claim would cost the Commission an extra £21 million a year in wages. The four shillings a week award represents an additional 25½ sterling.

The railway workers concerned are among Britain's lowest paid workers. Their wages range from £5 17s. 7d a week to £8 8s.—Reuter.

SEAMAN RUNS AMOK

Singapore, Dec. 16. A seaman ran amok with a jack knife on a ship off Singapore and seriously injured two fellow seamen before being overcome, according to reports here today.

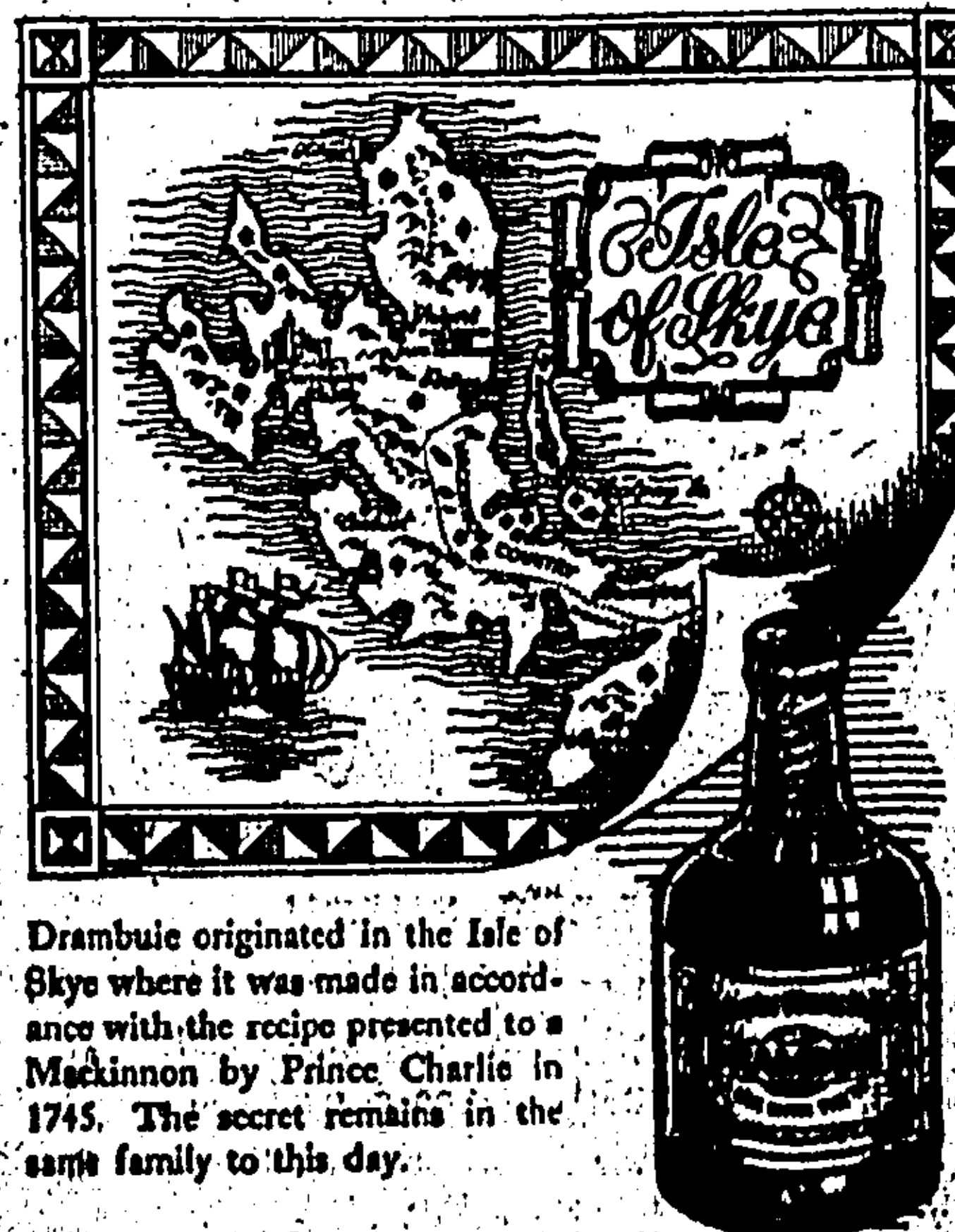
The motor vessel Hong Hwa had left nearby Tanjong Balai in the Karimoon Islands for Singapore when the trouble occurred. The vessel immediately returned to Tanjong Balai where a man was detained, the reports added.

The two injured men were then put in a Government launch and rushed to Singapore where they were admitted to hospital last night.—Reuter. Bollonski.



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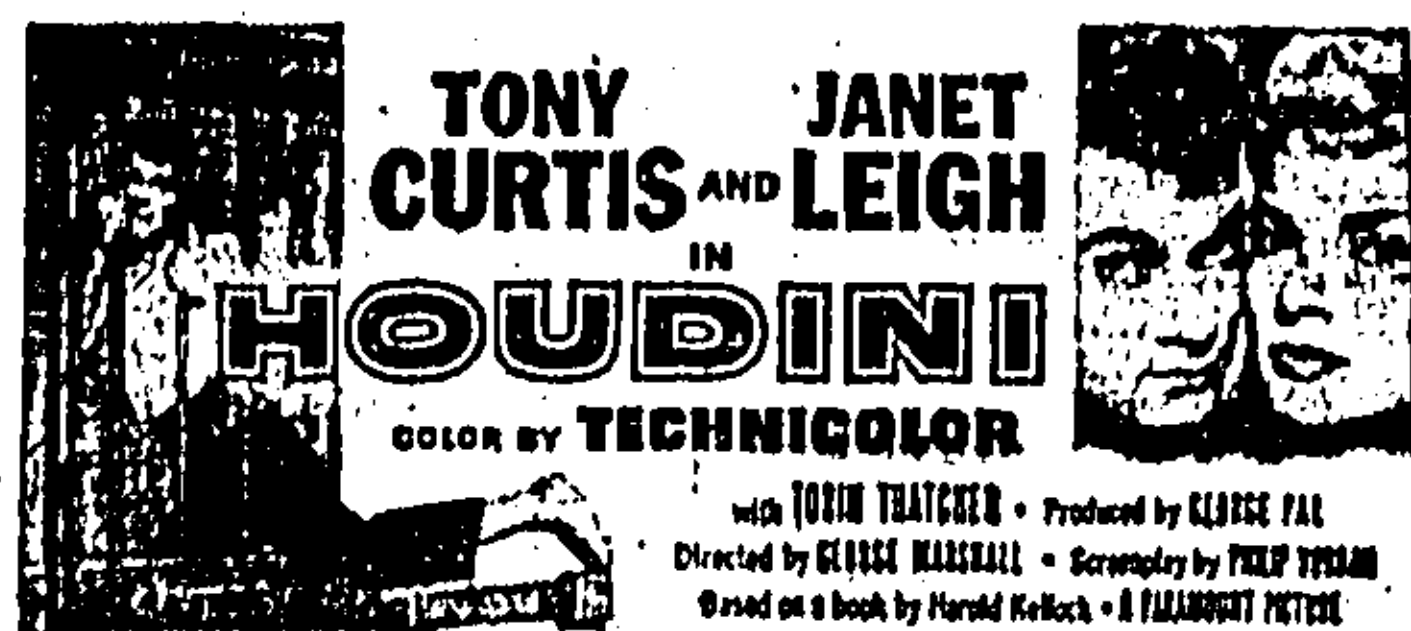
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TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
ON PANORAMIC SCREEN

M-G-M's
BIG MUSICAL ROMANCE OF TROPICAL ECSTASY!



ALSO: LATEST "NEWS OF THE DAY"

Queen Elizabeth at Panama Canal
Big Three Conference in Bermuda

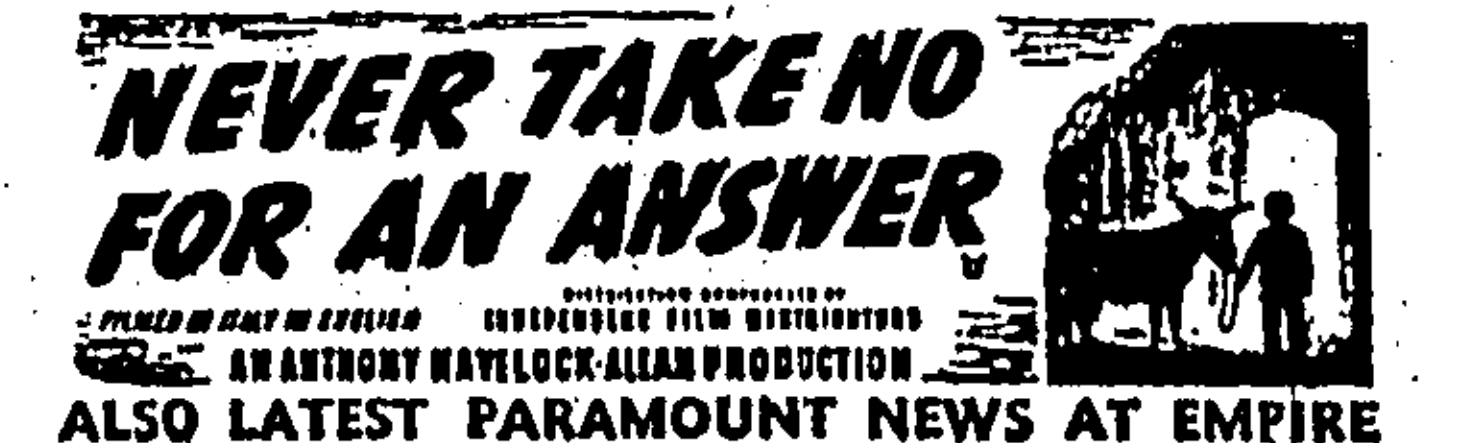
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EMPIRE MAJESTIC

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At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M. AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

This intensely moving, brilliantly directed film, with its
exquisite photography and superb characterization of
Peppino by a great little actor, Vittorio Mamunta, must
surely take its place among the classics of motion pictures.
(Ian Ross — H.K. Standard)



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— BERLIN —
Real Artistic & Breath-taking Acts!
2 Shows Daily at 6.00 & 9.00 p.m.
PRICES: Adults from \$2.40, Children from \$1.50
BOOKINGS: 10 a.m. to 12 noon
WING HONG FILM
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SUNDAYS 3 SHOWS
At 3.00, 6.00, 9.00 p.m.
From 12 noon
The Circus Grounds
Causeway Bay.

RED A-BOMB CARRIERS**Russia Having
Trouble With
Her Bombers**

Washington, Dec. 15.
Unofficial but authoritative reports indicated today that Russia has been having some production troubles recently with a giant bomber capable of atom-attacking United States cities. But military officials admitted frankly that they have known for two years that the plane is being turned out. They also said that Russia is believed to have bases for launching the bomber across the Bering Strait from Alaska, opposite the Aleutian Islands, and possibly across the Arctic waste from Greenland.

**Optimistic
Rice
Outlook**

Singapore, Dec. 16.
Envoys to the seventh meeting of the Consultative Committee on Rice wound up business here on Tuesday with optimism on the rice outlook for South-east Asia in 1954.
A Committee spokesman said it was agreed that South-east Asia would get more rice next year at better quality and at lower prices. Exporting countries would have considerably larger quantities of rice for sale in the coming year and many importing countries would have the best local crops since the war, the spokesman said.
He said the improved rice picture was due "partly to weather conditions and partly to schemes to increase the areas under cultivation, and the yields from export countries."
Japan stood out among Asia's nations as the exception this year with a lower rice yield. The spokesman said, Japan, however, which experienced floods, typhoons and other adverse conditions, is an exception. The harvest in Japan has been poor and the deficit will have to be met from outside sources.
ONE CONCLUSION
The spokesman said that one of the conclusions reached by the rice experts was there would be a continued need for closer co-operation between importing and exporting countries.
"South co-operation is of the greatest importance if the flow of rice is to be maintained and increased," the spokesman said. "The two-day meeting of representatives of all rice-producing countries in Asia was presided over by the United Kingdom Commissioner-General Malcolm MacDonald. In opening the meeting on Monday, Mr. MacDonald told the group that the price of rice was an important factor as any in the fight against Communism in South-east Asia. He warned against the danger of a slipping economy which would lead to unemployment, poverty and discontent."
Pointing out that rubber and tin prices had fallen to new lows in South-east Asia, Mr. MacDonald said, "In these circumstances the price of rice is of paramount importance since a reduction in price would go a long way towards maintaining stability."—United Press.

VON KUECHLER TO BE RELEASED
Bonn, Dec. 15.
Former Marshal Georg von Kuechler of the German army will be among the prisoners released by the western high commissioners on the occasion of the Christmas holidays, the West German D.P.A. news agency reported to-night.
Kuechler, aged 72, was sentenced to 20 years in jail at the Nuremberg war crime trials in 1948. Three years later, his sentence was reduced to 12 years.
Subsequently, he was released on parole on account of ill health. According to the custom prevailing in the United States army penitentiaries, Kuechler's term would have expired in 1954.—France-Press.

**Chinese
Minister
In Delhi**

New Delhi, Dec. 15.
Madame Li Teh-chuan, Minister of Health of the Chinese government, arrived here tonight for a fortnight's goodwill visit to India on the invitation of the Indian government.
She will stay in New Delhi until December 20 as the guest of President Rajendra Prasad, and will then proceed to Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta. Representatives of President Prasad, and of the Indian Health, Interior, and Foreign Ministers were on hand to greet Madame Li at the airport. The Ambassadors of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and other countries also greeted her upon her arrival.
The Minister of Health of the Peking Government is scheduled to leave India on December 30 on her way back to China.—France-Press.

Nose Bitten Off
Lahore, Dec. 15.
A man was charged here with biting off his wife's nose because he suspected her of infidelity.
He pleaded guilty but said he had been infuriated by finding his wife mother of his 12 children in "suspicious circumstances."—China Mail Special.

**Australian
Scooter**

Melbourne, Dec. 15.
An Australian-built motor scooter which its makers claim will do more than 100 miles to the gallon and reach a top speed of about 70 miles an hour will be on the market soon.
Designer Mr. J. B. Bryson demonstrated the scooter which has a number of factors not included in imported models.
It has "big-car" knee action springs, three forward gears — selected by foot lever — and foot and hand brakes. There is a separate tubular chassis, and the engine is completely enclosed.
Two deep "fender" boxes are built into the front for parcels. A plastic shield protects the rider from the weather. — China Mail Special.

**US Surplus
Products**

Butler Questioned
Over Purchases

London, Dec. 15.
Two former Labour ministers questioned Mr. R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the House of Commons today about the buying of surplus American farm products, including cotton, under the United States Mutual Security Act.

The Act provides for the sale of such products for sterling. Mr. Butler told Mr. Harold Wilson, former President of the Board of Trade, that the United States Government had made allocations to Britain of \$35 million and \$20 million for the purchase of such commodities. This was in addition to \$20 million previously allocated for the purchase of tobacco.
Part of the \$35 million allotment would be used to buy cotton, Mr. Butler added. Most of the purchases would be by private trade and some by the Raw Cotton Commission. They would be at normal commercial prices.
Asked whether he was satisfied that the growing proportion of cotton being supplied under special arrangements with export subsidies would make it possible for the Government to introduce effective measures of future trading in raw cotton, Mr. Butler replied: "I don't see that it will make it more difficult, in some respects it may be more easy."

Mr. Butler also said in reply to another Labour member, Sir Richard Acland, that the United States placed orders for British military equipment in 1952-53 to the value of some \$380 million.
He added that he did not yet know the likely value of orders in the current fiscal year. So far as he was aware the trend was not a decrease but rather the reverse.—Reuter.

**Appeal For Backing
For Eisenhower's
Atomic Plan**

Lochester, Minn., Dec. 15.
Mr. Charles W. Mayo appealed tonight to the world's medical and scientific group to back President Eisenhower's "atoms-for-peace" plan.

The Doctor, who is Governor of the Mayo Clinic, served as an alternate delegate for the United States at the United Nations General Assembly sessions which opened last week. In a statement lauding the President's plan for an international "Atom Bank" for human welfare, Dr. Mayo said, "If we can bring about a pooling of nuclear materials and scientific knowledge, and can train qualified scientists from over the world, this would mean much more rapid solution of many medical and health problems which have resisted the efforts of science up to date."

PIONEERING WORK
Dr. Mayo said that as a result of pioneering work in the medical application of atomic science in America, "the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, hyperthyroidism and other ailments have already been advanced."
"Still other developments promise to improve our knowledge and control of insects like malarial mosquitoes and other pests which afflict millions of people with 'disease,'" he continued.
"If President Eisenhower's plan for an international atomic energy agency can be made a reality, this entire trend will be greatly accelerated throughout the world. The materials and techniques that can ease human suffering and prolong human life will come into the hands of scientists and doctors of all nations. They will use, not abuse these tools in the true scientific spirit of free co-operation."—United Press.

**BEST RUBBER
YEAR
FORECAST**

New York, Dec. 15.
The Rubber Manufacturers' Association said today that the year 1954 shapes up as one of the best in the history of the US Rubber Manufacturing Industry.
Rubber consumption will hit a record-breaking 1,341,000 long tons in the year just ending, the Association disclosed. The following growth items—among more than 40,000 different types of rubber products produced annually—were cited by the Association as "cushioning the impact of moderate declines predicted in the automotive industry and other industry markets for rubber parts."
1. Replacement passenger tyre sales in 1954 are expected to exceed the 47,500,000 sold in 1953; 2. Production of belting and hose and other mechanical rubber goods will equal the record output of 1953; and 3. The foam rubber market is continuing to grow.
With these growth items expected to cushion any declines, the Association judged that production of rubber goods will taper off no more than five per cent over the next 12 months.—United Press.

**CELEBRITIES
IN COURT**

Johannesburg, Dec. 15.
Two Africans named Charlie Chaplin and William Shakespeare appeared before a Johannesburg magistrate for misbehaving in public.
Chaplin, charged with being drunk and disorderly in Johannesburg main street at night was fined two pounds and told to avoid city lights.
Shakespeare, charged with "disturbing the peace by shouting, swearing and screaming and making a noise in public," said he was provoked by people who falsely accused him of throwing rubbish down a drain.
Fining him a pound the magistrate said: "I hope that this is as you like it."—China Mail Special.

**S'PORE PETROL
PRICE CUT**

Singapore, Dec. 16.
The price of petrol is being reduced by three Malayan cents a gallon today at all pumps throughout Singapore and Malaya.
An overnight announcement by the Shell Oil Company said that petrol would now cost \$1.45 a gallon in Singapore and \$1.50 in Malaya. The reductions were attributed to lower ocean tanker freight rates and a drop in other production costs.—Reuter.

RECITAL

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MISS V. B. ABABA
Violin Virtuoso
Assisted by
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**GRANTHAM TRAINING
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At 8.30 p.m.
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Moutrie (H.K. & Kowloon),
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The ROXY TOWN BOOKING
OFFICE has removed temporarily to Room 108, National Bldg., 1st Floor, Tel. 20946.

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The Holiday Picture of All Time!
"a Christmas Carol"
Starring Alastair SIM
COMING ATTRACTION
Vicki
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LEE GREAT WORLD

TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.



Added FIRST 3-D
MUSICAL FEATURETTE
NAT "KING" COLE

SINGING "PRETEND"
RUSS MORGAN'S
Orchestra & Sensational
REVUE

POLAROID GLASS
50 CTS. PER PAIR

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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.

J. ARTHUR RANK Presents
A ceaseless war against the
drug traffic... and the
men who build a mountain of
dirty money in every city of
the world!

"CAIRO ROAD"

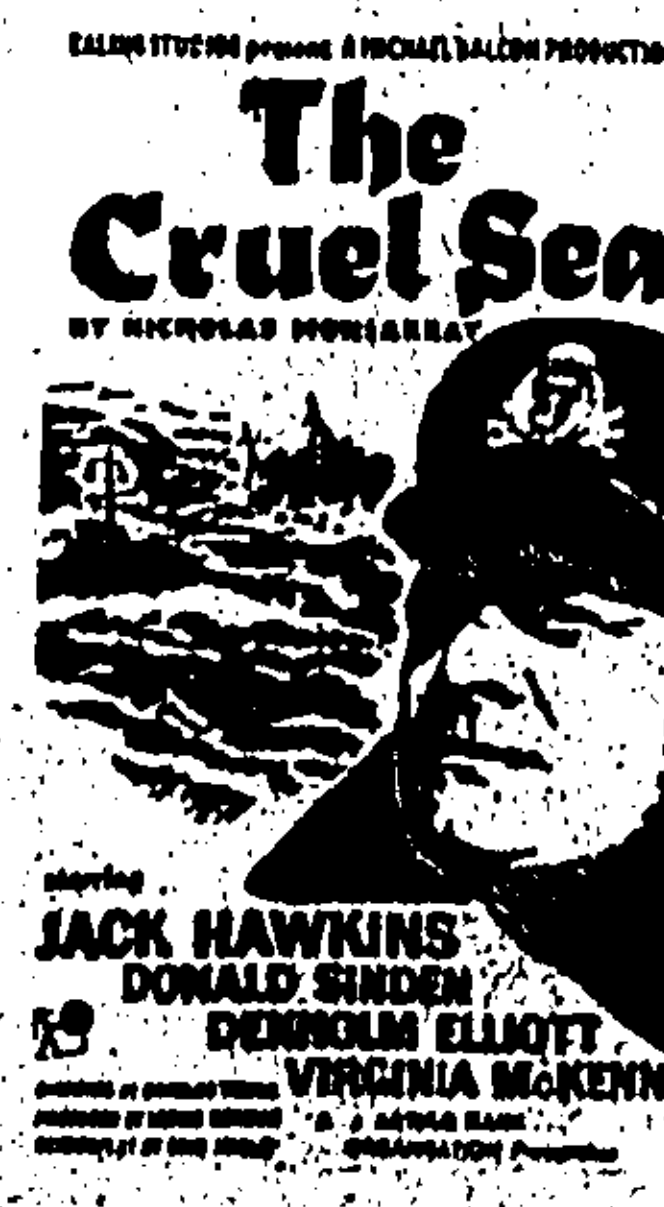
Starring Eric Portman
Laurence Harvey
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To-morrow One Day Only

Bette Davis in
"ANOTHER MAN'S
POISON"

STAR

— SHOWING TO-DAY —
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.

**QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA**

2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M. 5.30, 7.30, 9.30 P.M.



TO-MORROW
ONE DAY ONLY: "FANFAN LA TULIPE"

POP -
WHY DO THEY HAVE
DEEPER
PROGRAMMES
POP?
**IN ORDER THAT
FOUR WHO MISSED
THE FIRST
TIME...**
**MAY BE GIVEN THE
CHANCE OF MISSING
THEM AGAIN!**
Bedtime story
I child in 5 is in
need of eye help
**CHINESE
OPTICAL CO.**
Optician

YOUNG POLISH CRIMINALS

DEPORTATION ORDER

Washington, Dec. 15. The Board of Appeals of the United States Immigration Service today upheld a deportation order against Jean Jules Pierre Henri Fougere, a French citizen accused of Communist activities.

M. Fougere, now a resident of Seattle, Washington State, has had deportation order issued against him since last August.—France-Press.

INDO-CHINA IS GRAVE PROBLEM FOR WEST

New York, Dec. 15. The Foreign Policy Association, a private and unofficial organization devoted to studying international affairs, said in a report today that Indo-China was one of the gravest problems for the West in the Far East.

In a review of problems of an East-West settlement, the Association's report said:

"The Indo-China question is undoubtedly one of the most perplexing problems for the West in the Far East. Yet a failure to arrive at some kind of agreement with Peking on this subject as part of a general settlement in East Asia might well be followed by substantial Chinese intervention south of the Vietnam border—an intervention made more feasible by the withdrawal of Chinese forces from Korea.

"A settlement in Indo-China would not only reduce the danger of Chinese Communist expansion.

"It would simultaneously strengthen the position of France in Europe.

Failure to include Indo-China within the terms of a Far Eastern settlement would leave in jeopardy one of the most dangerous frontiers of Communist China and perpetuate the human and financial hemorrhage from which France has been suffering in Indo-China since 1945, thereby gravely weakening its capacity to resist Communism in Europe and within its own borders.

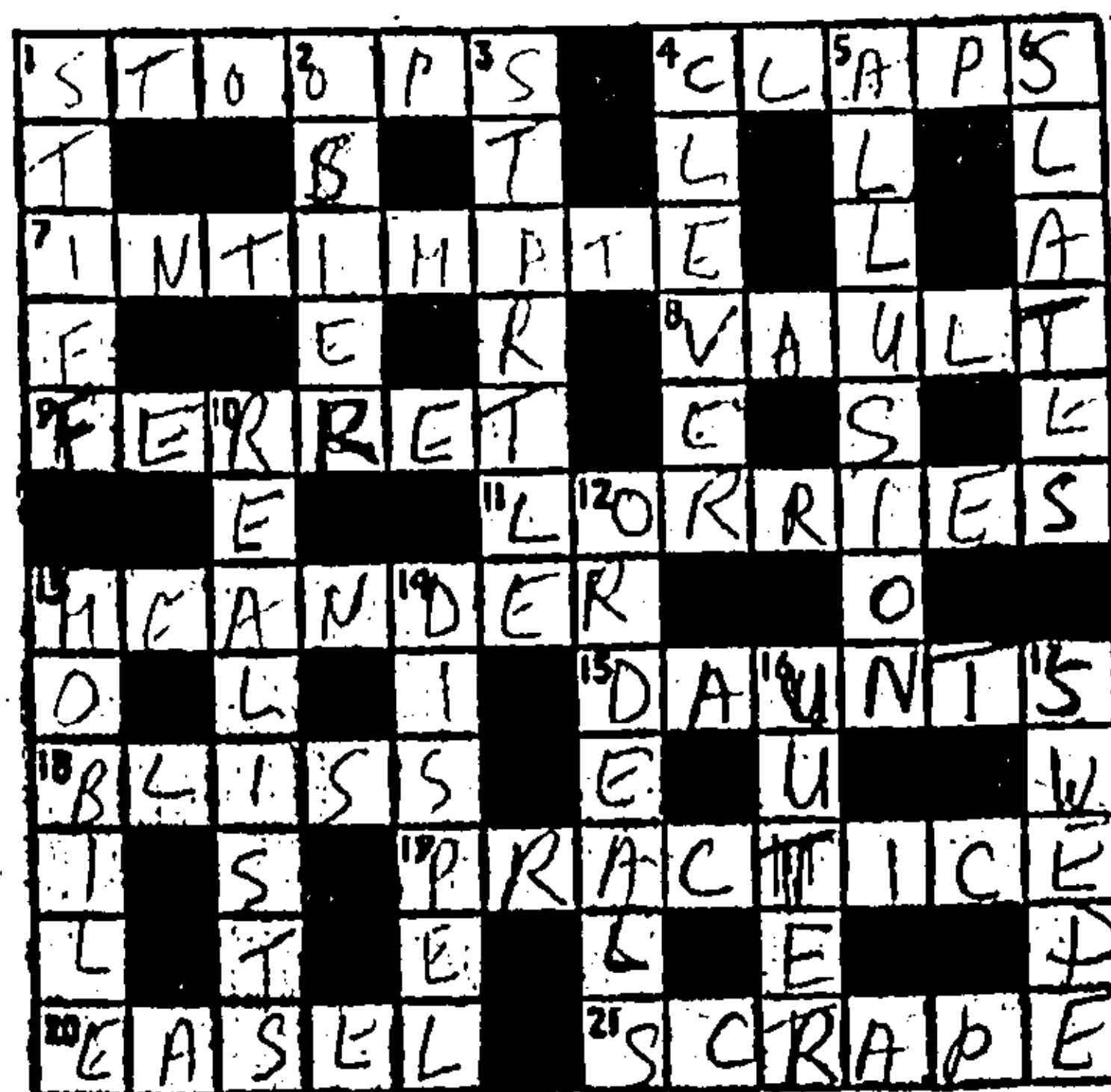
Thus, in Indo-China, as in many other areas of conflict, the interests and anxieties of East and West are closely interwoven."—United Press.

Wedding March

Liege, Dec. 15. A newly-married couple had to walk from church here after their wedding because all their money, 1,400 Belgian francs (£10 sterling), had been stolen from a handbag left in the sacristy during the ceremony.

Police later arrested a 20-year-old boy who confessed that he had spent the money at local fair.—China Mail Special.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- 1 Bonds down (6).
 - 4 Apples (5).
 - 7 Closely acquainted (8).
 - 8 Jump (5).
 - 9 Animal (6).
 - 11 Goods of value (7).
 - 12 Wishes about (7).
 - 13 Discourage (7).
 - 14 Ecstasy (6).
 - 15 Habit (6).
 - 20 Picture stand (6).
 - 21 Abrade (6).

- DOWN
- 1 Rigid (5).
 - 2 Willow (7).
 - 3 Alarm (7).
 - 4 Able (6).
 - 5 Refuse (6).
 - 6 Roof covering (6).
 - 10 They face facts (8).
 - 12 Trials (7).
 - 13 Movable (6).
 - 14 Scatter (6).
 - 16 Extreme (6).
 - 17 Vegetable (6).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Aids, 4. Deplete, 8. Pail, 9. Mice, 10. Fainted, 11. Diet, 12. Corn, 14. Refuse, 17. Arms, 19. Carpet, 22. Prevail, 23. Tilt, 27. Gift, 28. Bungles, 29. Inch, 30. Stir, 31. Retreat, 32. Ease, Down: 1. Faint, 2. Spoke, 4. Dime, 5. Blame, 6. Linger, 7. Throat, 12. Camp, 13. Mole, 15. Blob, 16. Mail, 18. Choke, 19. Aches, 21. Echo, 22. Seize, 24. Vague, 25. List.

Authorities Intend To Stamp Out Big Crime Wave

Stockholm, Dec. 15.

Warsaw newspapers, in some of the frankest articles written since the war, report that a nation of young criminals is growing up under the Communist regime in Poland.

That the authorities intend to stamp out the crime wave, they add, is shown by the unprecedentedly heavy sentences now being passed on offenders by the Courts.

Two kinds of young criminals are challenging the authority of the modern Polish state: the postwar "problem" boys and girls found, it seems, in countries on both sides of the iron curtain; and a new, tough, buccaneer type who makes it a point of honour to cheat the all-powerful Communist State, even though he often cheats his fellow citizen at the same time.

An analysis of Warsaw and provincial newspapers shows that these Communist buccaneers specialise in six different types of crime:

1. Stealing clothes and selling them on the black market.
2. Stealing food and selling it on the black market.
3. Stealing State property.
4. Embezzling State funds.
5. Obtaining licences and other State documents against payment.
6. Arranging or promising to arrange the escape abroad of Poles hunted by the State police for political offences.

The black market in clothing is run through the State shops. Managers of these shops, pestered by the public for the improved supplies of clothes provided by the authorities, are sometimes glad to retail "under the counter" stolen garments sold to them "privately."

This pacifies their customers and helps the managers to keep their own names out of the newspapers at a time when readers are being encouraged to write in and complain about any "deficiencies in the retail trade" which may have come to their notice.

PRIVATE SUPPLIERS

The "private suppliers" steal many of their clothes from parcels sent by Poles abroad to relatives behind the iron curtain. Generally, the thieves substitute old, ragged clothing for the new clothing while the parcels are in transit. In this way, the number of garments in the parcel corresponds with the description written by the sender on the label outside.

Ryszard Grudziński, a reporter at the number 2 post office in Warsaw, is one of the latest to be sentenced for this offence. He got two and a half years' imprisonment.

Food thieves operate in the same way. Zofia Cieplak of the Central Customs Office in Warsaw has been sentenced to one and a half years' imprisonment for taking coffee from parcels.

Young criminals specialising in the thefts of State property can readily sell their booty to firms or individuals who are behind their production schedule because some small commodity is missing.

For example, a delay by the State metal factories in de-

livering six girder was holding up completion of a block of flats in Katowice. Rather than fall behind his schedule, with the consequent risk of incurring penalties, the building manager bought six girders from three youths who offered to obtain them "privately" for him.

They had taken from a State stockpile and transported them to the building site at night. Other goods stolen to order in this way have included door handles, rolls of film, and motorcycle sparking plugs.

Some of the offenders got 12 years' imprisonment. Embezzlers of State funds sometimes make out receipted invoices for goods they have not had or services they have not rendered. The complicated bureaucracy enables some of them to go on cheating for month after month.

OVERTIME MONEY

One of the meaner embezzlements was made by unnamed executives at the Gdansk sugar factory and reported in the local paper "Glos Pracy." They had pocketed overtime money due to women workers.

The women, some of whom were with child, had been working as long as 14 hours a day. But their time cards showed only nine hours, "Glos Pracy" said.

Criminals specialising in obtaining licences and other State documents find their best clientele among the farmers who are pressed to produce more food but who often lack the necessary implements and materials.

Young officials have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for selling to farmers licences for a variety of goods ranging from fodder for their cattle to bricks to repair their cottage chimneys.

REFUGEES

Finally, the young buccaneers who earn an extra living by helping Polish refugees to flee abroad, generally have a cover job on the land frontier or on the dockside.

One, a cranesman at Gdynia, wrapped refugees up in bales of sack and lowered them into the holds of Western ships. The refugees emerged when the ships were at sea.

Some of these escape specialists quote a price for their services and then, when the fugitive is near the frontier, threaten to deliver him over to the police unless he hands over all he has, down to his wedding ring.

While inflicting stiffer sentences on offenders, the Polish authorities are urging parents to keep a tighter rein on their children.

In the meantime, Councilors in the Praga district of Warsaw are planning to introduce distinctive uniforms for children in the top classes of the various schools to facilitate identification of young offenders.

—China Mail Special.

State Of The Union Speech

Washington, Dec. 15. President Eisenhower will fly to Augusta, Georgia, on Christmas Day or Boxing Day to spend several days working on the State of the Union message which he will deliver to Congress early in January, the White House announced today.

Mr. James Hagerty, the Presidential Press Secretary, said that it had not been decided how long the President would remain in Augusta.

SUITS COATS EVENING DRESSES

FRANCIA FASHIONS
HIGH CLASS LADIES TAILOR

38A KIMBERLEY ROAD KOWLOON

MONTY DENIES REPORT

Paris, Dec. 15.

Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery today emphatically denied that he had declined to retire as Deputy Supreme Allied Commander in Europe in favour of General Sir Gerald Templer.

The Field Marshal refused a newspaper report to that effect with amazement.

He said in a statement: "There has never been any question, militarily or ministerially, of General Templer succeeding me at SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe)."

"As I stated in a newspaper interview last July, I am getting fed up with the repeated references in the press to my approaching retirement. They are all completely untrue. So long as my services are needed and I am considered of some use, so long will I stay and serve at SHAPE. That remains true today."

A SHAPE spokesman said the newspaper report was based on a misunderstanding. General Templer, High Commissioner in Malaya, was being considered for another appointment after a very successful tour of duty in Malaya. Military commentators had assumed that General Templer's next assignment might be at SHAPE and had written to that effect in the press.

The newspaper, "putting two and two together," learnt yesterday:

1. That General Templer would soon be given another assignment, and
 2. That Field Marshal Montgomery had an intention of retiring from SHAPE.
- The newspaper assumed, entirely erroneously, that Field Marshal Montgomery had therefore refused to retire and that General Templer's appointment to SHAPE had to be countermanded, the spokesman said.

In London tonight, the Colonial Office spokesman said: "No decision regarding the future of General Templer has yet been taken."—Reuter.

Colombo Plan Great Int'l Scheme

London, Dec. 15. The Marquess of Reading, the British Foreign Under-Secretary, today described the Colombo Plan for the development of South and South-East Asia as a "great international scheme" sustained by concord and mutual support.

He was addressing a press conference on the second annual report of the Consultative Committee of the £2,000 million six-year plan prepared by the committee's conference in New Delhi in October and released here today.

Lord Reading disclosed that a small information unit to provide information on the progress of the plan would be set up at Colombo early next year.

He also revealed that the Consultative Committee had not discussed the question of Japan's admission to the plan.

Lord Reading said that under the plan, priorities for funds, capital goods and technical goods and technical "know how" were being given to development schemes dealing with agriculture, power projects and transport in that order.

Britain would give all possible aid not only to the Commonwealth countries of the plan but also to the other non-Commonwealth members of the South and South-East Asia area.

KOREA SETBACK

Lord Reading said the aggregate development expenditure of India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma and Indonesia during 1953-54 was estimated to be £482 million.

In 1952-53 these countries spent a total of £429 million. In 1951-52 the figure was £345 million.

All the countries in the plan's area had received a setback after the Korean war boom in raw materials prices had subsided. But this had not discouraged them from continuing with their development programmes.—Reuter.

Soviet Control Of Danube Commission

Belgrade, Dec. 15. Five years of Soviet control over the Danube Commission ended today, when, according to Belgrade Radio, the commission met at Gals, Rumania, and elected a Yugoslav, Dragoje Djuric, as Secretary.

Since the commission was reformed in 1948 a Rumanian has held the post of Secretary, who is the executive head of the commission.

Until the present session Yugoslavia had been at loggerheads with the pro-Soviet majority of the commission, which it alleged was a tool of the Soviet Union owing to the latter's control over the secretariatship.

The commission, composed of Yugoslavia and the five Soviet bloc states of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, also agreed to a Yugoslav-Hungarian proposal to move its headquarters from Gals, near the Soviet border in eastern Rumania, to Budapest.—Reuter.

UN CHIEF TO SEE CHURCHILL

United Nations, Dec. 15.

The United Nations Secretary-General, Dr. Dag Hammarskjöld, leaves today for London, where he will deliver a speech and confer with the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden.

It was understood that the UN chief also hopes to see the British Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill.

Dr. Hammarskjöld is scheduled to speak in Albert Hall on Thursday evening before the British Association for the United Nations.

Sharing the platform with him will be Mr. Clement Attlee, former British Prime Minister, and Mr. Harold Macmillan, Minister of Housing and Local Government.

The Indian UN delegate, Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, leaves on Thursday evening for London. He plans to spend a day or two in London before going to New Delhi.—United Press.

Extension Of NATO Arms Agreement Depends On Members

Paris, Dec. 15.

The Canadian Defence Minister, Mr. Brooke Claxton, who announced NATO's Five-Nation Agreement on a standard cartridge for light weapons today, said at his press conference that the extension of the accord beyond the five nations subscribing to it would depend entirely on the will of the others.

Mr. Claxton explained that the agreement was significant because each country was specially attached to its own type of ammunition. He said that the reform corresponded to the recommendations urged by NATO's standing group. Failing on the standardisation of ammunition had been carried on since the end of the war, and the United States, Britain, and Canada failed to reach an agreement on it in 1951.

Mr. Claxton said that the calibre chosen would not necessarily mean important changes in the existing light arms. It would be some time—two or three years in any case—before the standard would be in general use, because of the stocks of ammunition on hand, he said.

STOCKS ON HAND

The stocks on hand would be used up in training, Mr. Claxton said. He stated that the agreement would facilitate supply problems for the five nations which adopted it. The new calibre adopted, he said, would require a minimum of changes in the present existing rifles in the five countries.

Mr. Claxton also said that the NATO member countries had on hand over 10,000,000 rifles, and billions of rounds of ammunition.

[The new standard adopted is the new 7.61 millimetre (0.300 inch) cartridge.]—France-Press.

XMAS WREATH SHELLACKED

Grand Rapids, Dec. 15. Carl Forslund told the Police today that some one stole a Christmas wreath of apples and oranges from outside his furniture store and left a note saying:

"Thank you for the oranges and apples." It was signed, "A starving man."

Forslund said that the fruit was shellacked and good for display purposes only.—United Press.

Rope Used In Building Pyramids

Johannesburg, Dec. 15.

Mr. H. A. Herbert, of Parktown, West, Johannesburg, possesses a piece of the actual rope used for building the Pyramids 6,000 years ago—and it is still serviceable.

Mr. Herbert said he found it during World War Two when his South African unit in the Western Desert were detailed to excavate a quarry for an ammunition dump.

They uncovered a huge granite block with a length of papyrus rope still wrapped round it, and used the rope to lift the stone, weighing many tons, out of the hole.

Under the block lay the arm of a slave, amputated on the spot when, according to Cairo Museum experts, the quarry was being used to build the Pyramids. The block had apparently slipped and trapped the slave.

An Egyptian official presented a section of the papyrus rope to Mr. Herbert.—China Mail Special.

Toronto, Dec. 15. The Police reported the capture of two youthful bandits—aged nine and 10—who robbed a nine-year-old girl of \$1.

They said that the boys hit their victim over the head with a toy pistol, grabbed the money and ran.

The Police said that the boys spent their loot on candy and ammunition for their cap guns.—United Press.

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Toothaches
Colds
are quickly overcome by
Aspirin

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(JONES — BROWNS — FOSTERS etc.)
THIS YEAR?

WHERE WILL BE THE BEST PLACE TO
VISIT FIRST — FOR THE FINEST
CHOICE?

WHY MUST WE ALWAYS WAIT UNTIL THE
LAST MINUTE — UNTIL THE BEST HAS
GONE?

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"TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY" . . . CHAPTER 28

IKE'S CHANGE OF PLAN CAUSES CONCERN

AS a war waged by a coalition draws to its end political aspects have a mounting importance. In Washington especially longer and wider views should have prevailed. It is true that American thought is at least disinterested in matters which seem to relate to territorial acquisitions, but when wolves are about his flock, even if he does not himself care for mutton.

At this time the points at issue did not seem to the United States Chiefs of Staff to be of capital importance. They were, of course, unnoticed by and unknown to the public, and were all soon swamped, and for the time being effaced, by the flowing tide of victory.

Nevertheless, as will not now be disputed, they played a dominating part in the destiny of Europe, and may well have denied us all the lasting peace for which we had fought so long and hard. We can now see the deadly hiatus which existed between the fading of President Roosevelt's strength and the growth of President Truman's grip of the vast world problem. In this melancholy void one President could not act and the other could not know.

NEITHER the military chiefs nor the State Department received the guidance they required. The former confined themselves to their professional sphere; the latter did not comprehend the issues involved. The indispensable political direction was lacking at the moment when it was most needed.

The United States stood on the scene of victory, master of world fortunes, but without a true and

coherent design. Britain, though still very powerful, could not act decisively alone. I could at this stage only warn and plead. Thus this climax of apparently measureless success was to me a most unhappy time. I moved a mid cheering crowds, or sat at a table adorned with congratulations and blessings from every part of the Grand Alliance, with an aching heart and a mind oppressed by forebodings.

THE destruction of German military power had brought with it a fundamental change in the relations between Communist Russia and the Western democracies. They had lost their common enemy, which was almost their sole bond of union. Henceforward Russian imperialism and the Communist creed saw and set no bounds to their progress and ultimate domination, and more than two years were to pass before they were confronted again with an equal will-power.

I should not tell this tale now when all is plain in glaring light if I had not known it and felt it when all was dim, and when abounding triumph only intensified the inner darkness of human affairs. Of this the reader must be the judge.

The decisive practical points of strategy and policy with which this narrative seeks to deal were:

First, that Soviet Russia had become a mortal danger to the free world. Secondly, that a new front must be immediately created against her onward sweep. Thirdly, that this front in Europe should be as far east as possible. Fourthly, that Berlin was the prime and true objective of the Anglo-American armies. Fifthly, that the liberation of Czechoslovakia and the entry into Prague of American troops was of high consequence. Sixthly, that Vienna, and indeed Austria, must be regulated by the Western Powers, at least upon an equality with the Russian Soviet. Seventhly, that Marshal Tito's aggressive pretensions against Italy must be curbed. Finally, and above all, that a settlement must be reached on all major issues between the West and the East in Europe before the armies of democracy melted, or the Western Allies yielded any part of the German territories they had conquered, or as it could soon be written, liberated from totalitarian tyranny.

ALTHOUGH nothing could be positive, the general conclusion of our Chiefs of Staff was that a prolonged German campaign, or even guerrilla, in the mountains was unlikely on any serious scale. The possibility was therefore relegated by us, as it proved rightly, to the shades.

On this basis I inquired about the strategy for the advance of the Anglo-American armies as foreseen at Allied headquarters, and received this reply:

On 30 Mar 45
As soon as the U.S. Ninth and First Armies join hands, and enemy encircled in Ruhr area is incapable of further offensive action, I propose driving eastward to join hands with Russians or to attain general line of Elbe.

Subject to Russian intentions, the axis Kassel-Leipzig

is the best for the drive, as it will ensure the overrunning of that important industrial area, into which German Ministries are believed to be moving; it will cut the German forces approximately in half, and it will not involve us in crossing of Elbe. It is designed to divide and destroy the major part of remaining enemy forces in West.

This will be my main thrust and, until it is quite clear that concentration of all our effort on it alone will not be necessary, I am prepared to direct all my forces to ensuring its success. It lies in Bradley's zone, and he will have the Third, First, and Ninth Armies to carry it out, with Fifteenth Army also under his command, following, if possible, mopping up.

He will have Montgomery protecting his left flank, with British and Canadian Armies, north of general line Hanover-Wittenberg, and Devers protecting his right with Seventh and First French Armies.

Once the success of main thrust is assured I propose to take action to clear the northern ports, which in the case of Kiel will entail forcing the Elbe. Montgomery will be responsible for these tasks, and I propose to increase his forces if that should seem necessary for the purpose. In addition Sixth Army Group will be prepared, when above requirements have been met, to drive to south-east on axis Nuremberg-Regensburg to prevent any possible German consolidation in south and to join hands with Russians in Danube valley. . . .

ABOUT the same time we learned that Eisenhower had announced his policy in a direct telegram to Marshal Stalin on March 28 without previously mentioning the subject either to his Deputy, Air Chief Marshal Tedder, or to the Combined Chiefs of Staff. We all thought that this went beyond the limits of negotiation with the Soviets by the Supreme Commander in Europe as they had previously been understood.

Gen. Eisenhower felt justified in this direct correspondence with the head of the Russian State because Stalin was also Commander-in-Chief of the Red Army. Yet it was not with the President of the United States that he corresponded, who was also the head of the military forces, but with Gen. Marshall. In this telegram Eisenhower said that after isolating the Ruhr he proposed to make his main thrust along the axis Erfurt-Leipzig-Dresden, which by joining hands with the Russians, would cut in two the remaining German forces. A secondary advance through Regensburg to Linz, where also he expected to meet the Russians, would prevent "the consolidation of German resistance in the redoubt in Southern Germany."

STALIN agreed readily. He said that the proposal "entirely coincides with the plan of the Soviet High Command." "Berlin," he added, "has lost its former strategic importance. The Soviet High Command therefore plans to allot secondary forces in the direction of Berlin." This statement was not borne out by events. The British Chiefs of Staff were concerned both about the merits of the new plan and about the shortcoming of the highest authorities, both military and constitutional. They drafted a lengthy telegram to their colleagues in Washington, which I did not see till after it had

gone. This very often happened in inter-Staff negotiations. I was in full agreement in principle with our Chiefs of Staff, and we thought on the same lines. All the same, I thought that their telegram brought in many minor extraneous matters and did not take the best ground for an argument with the United States Chiefs of Staff. I accordingly sent them the following minute.

I have considered your telegram, and of course it is a good thing for the military points to be placed before the Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee. I hope, however, we shall realise that we have only a quarter of the forces invading Germany, and that the situation has thus changed remarkably from the days of June, 1944. . . .

It seems to me that the chief criticism of the new Eisenhower plan is that it shifts the axis of the main advance upon Berlin to the direction through Leipzig to Dresden, and thus raises the question of whether the 21st Army Group will not be so stretched as to lose its offensive power, especially after it has been deprived of the Ninth U.S. Army.

Thus we might be condemned to an almost static role in the north and virtually prevented from crossing the Elbe until an altogether later stage in the operations has been reached. All prospect also of the British entering Berlin with the Americans is ruled out.

The validity of such criticism depends on the extent of the enemy's resistance. If that resistance is practically collapsing there is no reason why the advances, both of the main Army and of the 21st Army Group, should not take place on a broader front than hitherto. This is a point on which the Supreme Commander must have the final word.

It also seems that Gen. Eisenhower may be wrong in supposing Berlin to be largely devoid of military and political importance. Even though German Government departments have to a great extent moved to the south, the dominating fact on German minds of the fall of Berlin should not be overlooked. . . .

THE United States Chiefs replied in substance that Eisenhower's procedure in communicating with the Russians appeared to have been an operational necessity, and that any modification of it should be made by him, and not by them. The course of action outlined in his plan appeared to accord with agreed strategy and with his directive.

Eisenhower, they claimed, was deploying across the Rhine in the north the maximum forces which could be used. The secondary effort in the south was achieving an outstanding success, and was being exploited as much as supplies would permit.

The Battle of Germany, they said, was at a point where it was for the Field Commander to judge the measures which should be taken. To turn away deliberately from the exploitation of the enemy's weakness did not appear sound. The single objective should be quick and complete victory.

While recognising that there were factors not of direct concern to the Supreme Commander, the U.S. Chiefs considered his strategic concept was sound and should receive full support and that he should continue to communicate freely with the Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Army. The U.S. Chiefs of Staff, however, also suggested that Gen. Eisenhower should be asked to submit to Marshal Stalin, and to delay replying to any new request from Moscow for further information until he had heard from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

I full agreement with my military colleagues, I repeated the substance of my minute to Gen. Eisenhower. Prime Minister to Gen. Eisenhower 31 Mar 45

Very many thanks. It seems to me personally that if the enemy's resistance does not collapse, the shifting of the main axis of advance so much farther to the southward and the withdrawal of the Ninth U.S. Army from the 21st Army Group may stretch Montgomery's front so widely that the offensive role which was assigned to him may peter out.

I do not know why it would be an advantage, not to cross the Elbe. If the enemy's resistance should weaken, as you evidently expect and which may well be fulfilled, why should we not cross the Elbe and advance as far eastward as possible?

This has an important political bearing, as the Russian armies of the South seem certain to enter Vienna and overrun Austria. If we deliberately leave Berlin to them, even if it should be in our grasp, the double event may strengthen their conviction, already apparent, that they have done everything.

Further, I do not consider myself that Berlin has yet lost its military and certainly not its political significance. The fall of Berlin would have a profound psychological effect on German resistance in every part of the Reich. While Berlin holds out great masses of Germans will feel their duty to go down fighting. The idea that the capture of Dresden and junction with the Russians there would be a superior gain does not commend itself to me. . . .

I also summed up the position in a message to the President.

[The Prime Minister in his World Copyright reserved. Re-production, even partially, in any pressed his full confidence in language, strictly prohibited.]

Gen. Eisenhower, but re-emphasised the political importance of taking Berlin, both as "a supreme signal of defeat to the German people," and as countering the forthcoming Russian capture of Vienna. Meanwhile he received a further telegram from Gen. Eisenhower pointing out that, after concentrating on the centre, he intended to let Field-Marshal Montgomery cross the Elbe and go on at least as far as Lubek. This city and Berlin "would be included in our important targets," if a German collapse should occur.

Thank you again for your most kind telegram. . . . I am however all the more impressed with the importance of entering Berlin, which may well be open to us, by the reply from Moscow to you, which in para. 3 says, "Berlin has lost its former strategic importance."

This should be read in the light of what I mentioned of the political aspects. I deem it highly important that we should shake hands with the Russians as far to the east as possible.

I FELT it my duty to end this correspondence between friends. Minister to President Roosevelt 5 Apr 45

I still think it was a pity that Eisenhower's telegram was sent to Stalin without anything being said to our Chiefs of Staff or to our Deputy, Air Chief Marshal Tedder, or to our Commander-in-Chief, Field-Marshal Montgomery. The changes in the main plan have now turned out to be very much less than we at first supposed.

My personal relations with General Eisenhower are of the most friendly character. I regard the matter as closed, and to prove my sincerity I will use one of my very few Latin quotations. Amantium irae amoris integratio est. [Lovers' quarrels are the renewal of love.]

(Continued Tomorrow)

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Nathaniel Gubbins

IN America, where they will believe anything, 2,000 employers believe they can pick a man for promotion by the shape of his face.

The Thinker has a ball-shaped nose. The Mother has a wide space between nose and lips. The Steady Type a ridge down the jaw line, the Go-Getter a wide lower jaw with prominent muscles and the Aggressive Executive a high-bridged nose.

Anybody with "a pleasant, harmonious face" is rejected at once for promotion, said a probably faked the next day, by a man with a nose as big as Westminster Bridge.

In the words of a Washington correspondent, "the uglier you are the better your chance of success."

Over the years I have had many brief contacts (mostly unpleasant) with successful business executives. My interviews with them were so short and my exits from their panelled, soft-carpeted rooms so sudden that I am unable to remember all the details of their features, except to say that the Americans are probably right. For instance, I have been refused a rise by a man with a ball-shaped nose (Thinker Type), whose only thoughts were probably, "How can I persuade this sucker he's not worth even what he's getting?"

I have been terrified by Steady Types with jawline as deep as the Grand Canyon, lectured by Go-Getters whose prominent face

muscles quivered as they spoke of their industry and achievements on the hard road to success, and had unfortunate, and often fatal, encounters with Aggressive Executives remarkable for their cold, ferocious eyes and high-bridged noses as thin as a paper knife.

The face of the most successful man I ever met was a combination of all the foregoing characteristics except the high-bridged nose. He had a ball-shaped nose, a wide space between the nose and lips (Mother), and a whole collection of ridges and quivering jaw muscles.

But only a perfectionist could call him ugly. He had that strange, unusual beauty which inspires great sculptors like Rodin.

TOMMY ATKINS' Army Sports Parade

The Army 'B' cricket team entered into the true spirit of the game in their League match against the University on Saturday. They got their opponents out for only 45 runs and replied by sending tail-enders Bensall and Bennett to open the innings. These two batsmen took up the challenge and chalked up the necessary winning runs without loss of a wicket.

Gnr. Bensall must rank high in the list of all-round sportsmen in the Army in the Colony. He has represented the Army and the unit at cricket and football and has also a regimental reputation at hockey and basketball.

One member of his unit summed it up by saying: "Give him a ball and he's happy... and the size or type of ball doesn't matter one little bit."

FAIR CONTRIBUTION
The Royal Military Police are small in number in the Colony but they are making a fair contribution towards our sports.

Sgt. McIntosh and Lt. Cpl. Burke are regular members of the Army soccer team and a recent performance by cricketer Stubley, when he had the amazing bowling figures of 9 wickets for 9 runs, shows that when duty permits the policemen can give a good account of themselves on the sports field.

When I enquired about news of the Army rugby game at the week-end I was told that the 'three' had been more certain in their handling there might have been a real glory to it of some very high scoring.

To my question about outstanding players I got a most unusual reply. I was told that the first time Gerrard played a poor game I would be told... and that would indeed be news for the captain of the Army side has been a model of consistency this season.

One of the most popular competitions that has been held this season was the Inter-Unit Basketball event. Immediately after the final suggestions were made that a league should be run so that units could get more competitive games. I seemed that there was a need for just such a competition and the officials made plans to get one started.

So far the response to the idea has been surprisingly poor, and unless more units come forward with entries the scheme may have to be abandoned, which is a tough task on the half-a-dozen units who have indicated their support.

Congratulations to Captain 'Four-in-a-row' Pierce for some excellent bowling at the week-end. He achieved a hat-trick with the last three balls of one over and got another with the first ball of his next over. His final analysis was 5 wickets for 6 runs!!!

NASTY SETBACK
Army hockey hopes got a nasty setback at the week-end when the 'A' team went under to Revere 'A' and the 'B' team had to be content with a draw against the Thunderbolts.

The first game was a sizzling affair and from the general comments of the spectators it was the best game seen so far this season. The soldiers were naturally disappointed, but they were not disgraced.

This week the 'A' team is faced with a tough inter-service game against the Royal Air Force and they will make a great effort to get back on to the winning trail. The Army 'B' team has a hard fixture against the Dutch eleven. Both games will take place at the Army Sports ground at Sookun-poo on Sunday.

Army novice boxers are now keyed up for the novice championships which start on Monday at the Church of England Institute at Fanling. The popularity of this event is shown in the very big entry of 133 young boxers.

The weigh-in for the competition will take place on Monday morning and boxing will commence as soon as these necessary formalities are complete. Boxing will also take place on Monday afternoon until 17.30 hours. Boxing will continue on Tuesday morning and afternoon and the finals will take place on Wednesday.

Entries for the Inter-Unit Hockey Championships are now coming forward. It would assist the organizers if intending entrants would send their entries in as soon as possible.

Granger, the Army's popular goalkeeper, played against C.A.A. on Saturday although he was not 100 percent fit. When arrangements for a suitable deputy broke down the Colony goalkeeper readily agreed to turn out in spite of the fact that he had been advised by the team doctor that he should, if possible, have a rest for a few days to give an injured muscle a chance to mend.

TEAMWORK
The good team work of the Gurkhas has always been

acknowledged and the local representatives are maintaining the high standards. The 50th Field Engineers must surely be well on the way to staking a substantial claim to being the all-round champions in the Colony.

Their recent 'hat-trick' will take a lot of beating. They have won the Land Forces Cross Country Championship, the 35 Brigade Cross Country Championship, and the Inter-Unit Physical Training Championship. This is a magnificent record and a tribute to the fitness of the Gurkha soldier.

There is a sad tale to tell this week. It concerns the 'Sport of Kings' and a certain impetuous young officer who had staked his intention of visiting Happy Valley last Saturday.

A friend gave him a couple of 'cents' for the race meeting and he went along to the racecourse with the intention of cashing-in on his information.

His instructions were to have an early bet on Amaranth and to put all his winnings on Amaranth at the end of the programme. He was successful with the first one but the second one is not now mentioned in his presence.

He backed it as advised, but with sweat on his brow he watched it beaten to the post by Apple Pie and tore up his tickets in utter disgust, only to find later that Apple Pie had been disqualified and the race awarded to Amaranth.

His friends know the whole story and he will take a long time to live it down.

The Army will be well represented in the Colony Cross Country Championships when they are held at San Wal next Sunday. The course will be the same as was used for the Land Forces Championships, but on this occasion the competitors will go round it in the reverse direction.

When the Colony Football Selections sit down tonight to pick the teams to tackle the Aussies, they will have before them the list for official consideration the names of several Army players. Granger, Casey, Wells, Frazier, Longland, Nash and Bennett will come up for consideration and it seems pretty certain that the Army will be well represented in the final selections.

MORAL VICTORY
The Chairman's team versus the Secretary's team proved to be a most entertaining golf match when it was played at Fanling last week. The official result was a draw at 6½ each, but the Secretary considers that as he managed to beat the Chairman in their match moral victory goes to him. Many knowing individuals consider that the score was a convenient excuse for a return later in the season.

Unit boxing championships usually provide some grand fighting and the Royal Norfolk Championships last week were no exception. Some of the fights reached a high standard and others resulted in an abundance of thrills for the spectators. This show was particularly well organized and it reflected much credit on the men behind the scenes.

The finals of the Army Tennis Championships take place at the R.C.I.C. this afternoon. With several popular competitors listed to play there should be a good crowd to see the play and to see Lady Alrey present the trophies to the winners.

You will remember a few weeks ago I related how two balls were caught after a wicket had been broken by a fastish ball. I have now had a letter from a young soldier who tells me that in a match in Somerset he saw the wicket broken by a medium fast bowler and that the wicketkeeper caught one ball while the other shot inside his stumps.

Looks like I've really started something... any advance on one in the hand and one in the shirt?

SNIPPETS. Maybe I wasn't so far wrong about Todd-White after all. He dropped out of last week's race simply because he has been overdoing it and was not fit to last the distance. Now names in the Army soccer sphere... Buckley and Lockton young professionals serving with the Kings. Dowling back to form with 6 wickets for 24 runs. Two firsts for the Gunners. Rugby under the floodlights and with a white ball too. 33 General Hospital going great guns in Zone II of the minor units soccer league.

THE GAMBOLS
The good team work of the Gurkhas has always been

INTER-VARSITY RUGGER

NEVER A MORE EXCITING BATTLE OF THE BLUES THAN THIS YEAR'S

By PETER LOVEGROVE

There have certainly been many more brilliant Inter-Varsity matches, but I cannot recall a more exciting one than this year's 6 points-all draw under grey skies and in a gloomy light before Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, Princess Margaret and over 50,000 spectators at Twickenham on December 8.

There is a special roar which only this annual encounter produces, rising to a mighty crescendo at the crucial moments, and then subsiding somewhat as success or disaster is averted. This time, however, the crowd pulled out all the stops from the very first minute, and the fortissimo seemed unceasing, matching the furious pace and the robust cut-and-thrust of a grand tear-away game.

As so often happens, previous form proved no guide at all. Cambridge, who had won eight of their preparatory matches to Oxford's three, and scored 237 points to the Dark Blues' 95, were expected to knockle the stuffing out of their opponents. Instead, they had to rely on two penalties to share the honours, and only drew level a quarter of an hour from the end. But they missed two golden opportunities, one in each half, and only some of the most devastating tackling kept them out in the closing minutes when they mounted attack after attack in quick succession.

Maxim Signs Contract To Meet Moore

Miami, Dec. 15. Lighthweight champion Archie Moore and challenger Joey Maxim signed a contract today for their title bout here on January 27.

Veteran fight promoter Max W. H. Peoples represented the International Boxing Club at the signing. The IBC will sponsor the match.

Both Moore and Maxim said they would begin working out for the fight this week-end, but did not say where they would set up their training camps.

Peoples earlier speculated that the bout would draw a \$100,000 gate. It will be the third time Maxim has fought Moore for the title. — United Press.

South Africans Win By An Innings

Durban, Dec. 15. South Africa's experienced attack, spearheaded by pace bowler John Watkins and spinner Hugh Tayfield, dismissed New Zealand cheaply for 149 in their second innings today to give the Springboks an innings victory in the first Test.

The final scores were: South Africa—437 for nine declared. New Zealand—1st Innings, 236, 2nd Innings, 149.

South Africa thus won by an innings and 58 runs. Geoff Rabone was the only New Zealander to face the South African attack with any confidence in the match, especially in the first innings when he made 107.

Bert Sutcliffe, opening batsman, reached double figures in both knockouts while A. Macgibbon made 21 before being stumped by Waite off Van Ryneveld in the first innings.—Reuter.

Game Postponed

It is regretted that owing to unforeseen circumstances the rugby match between the Club 'B' XV and 25 Fd Regt R.A. which was to have been played this evening has been postponed.

Players selected to play for the Club XV are requested to turn out for a Club trial. Other 'B' XV players not selected to play this evening are also requested to attend.

Oxford, playing far better than they have done at any time during the past two months, adopted the right plan to counter a strong pack and a very nippy attack, and very nearly brought off a big surprise.

The game opened on a dramatic note. The Light Blues kicked off but an immediate infringement caused a set scrum back at the kick-off point. The Cambridge hooker was too eager and raised a foot before the ball was put in, and from the resulting penalty Oxford's Rhododan full-back D.A.B. Robinson kicked a prodigious goal.

Cambridge were on terms six minutes later, Robinson's opposite number, Peter Davies, son of the Glamorgan cricketer, kicking an immaculate a penalty from 40 yards.

A "SPRINGBOK" TRY
The Dark Blues, after smothering some promising Cambridge passing movements, crowded on the pressure and deservedly were in front again 11 minutes from the interval with a typical "Springbok" move.

Scrum-half L.P. MacLachlan found a long touch-nod to the Cambridge line. Oxford won the line-out and the ball came back to the South African centre, H.B. Birrell, whose finely judged diagonal kick cleared the Cambridge backs. And in rapid succession, the left-winger, at a tremendous pace to touch down far out the only try of the afternoon, which Robinson only just failed to turn.

A goal. Johnstone scored many such as this try during the South African tour of Britain two seasons ago.

Cambridge could have made it all square soon after. Davies, narrowly missed with a penalty, and then their left centre, D. R. W. Silk, made a brilliant break-through with the Oxford defence caught on the wrong foot. He waded his way up to Robinson, and then lost control of the ball with

CROSS COUNTRY ARRANGEMENTS ALL COMPLETE

The route for the Hongkong Amateur Athletic Association Cross Country Race scheduled for Sunday has been fixed and all preparations have been completed even to the arrangement of markers at various points of the race to direct competitors on the right path.

Starting from a point just off the main San Wal Sha Tau-kok Road at 2.30 p.m. the route covers both hilly and flat country with a couple of small streams to be negotiated.

Speakers intending to watch the race are advised that a train will leave Kowloon at 12.08 p.m. and arrive at Fanling at 1.07 p.m. The return train will leave Fanling Station at 5.53 p.m.

Following the completion of the run, prizes will be distributed at the Church Institute by Col. O. G. W. White, D.S.O. to the winning team, runners-up and ten individual competitors.

only a few yards to go and three colleagues unmarked on his left.

TEMPERS FRAYED

The Oxford forwards resumed in stern mood after the change-over, and it was nearly 20 minutes before Cambridge, try as they might, could break out of their own half. By then play had become very robust among the packs, tempers were getting frayed, and stoppages for repairs were frequent.

H.P. Morgan, the Light Blues' diminutive outside-half, had to leave the field with a head injury from a flying tackle, and while he was off the field Oxford were pressed in their own half, and Davies brought the scores level with a 35-yard kick.

When Morgan came back with his head swathed in bandages, Cambridge made one despairing, sustained effort to wrest victory, heeling quickly and passing and re-passing with speed and purpose.

But the Oxford forwards, though very tired and beaten in the set scrums and line-outs, still had sufficient life to spoil the happy mood effectively, and the Dark Blues clung to their opposite numbers like limpets.

Once, the Light Blues seemed to be home when a cross-kick turned the defence and let in left-winger J. Roberts, but he failed to gather and Oxford scrambled the ball away.

It was the first draw of the series since 1935, and the 12th since the two Varsity first met in 1871. Oxford have registered 35 wins to Cambridge's 27.

Glamour On The Greens? No, Say The Lady Bowlers Of Old England

By T. F. THOMPSON

Four hundred women who know the exact meaning of such mysterious phrases as "crowding the jack" and "displacing a non-toucher" have decided firmly and finally that glamour clothes are not wanted on the bowling green.

And, just as finally but not so unanimously, they also decided that smoking does not become a lady bowler.

It was the annual meeting of the English Women's Bowling Association—"Ewba"—to initiate. From Devon and Somerset, Leicester and Surrey they converged on a banquet hall at the Cafe Royal, W.

Tall women, small women, fur-coated women, severe brimmed women, bowlers of all sorts—but, to a member, determined to squish the deplorable habit of arriving at National Championships wearing silk dresses or peaked eye shades, or both.

For years such frivolities have been banned. Leading stateswomen of Ewba have long held that sensible substantial dresses of cloth or serge are the thing for lady bowlers.

"But never before has there been any provision for enforcing the rule," said Mrs. Mary Cate, the secretary. "Now any body who flouts it in national championships will be disqualified."



An Oxford player passes the ball when tackled in the Inter-Varsity match at Twickenham which was drawn 6-all.

SPOTLIGHTING THE THREE-YEAR-OLDS OF 1954

Two Thousand Guineas Will Provide Best Chance For Coronation Year

By JAMES PARK

On the day of the Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket Syd Mercer remarked in his usual forthright manner: "I think I shall run well today." I was taken aback because I had not favourably commented on anything he was running that day. So I had to plead ignorance and ask, "What with?"

"Coronation Year, of course," came the reply. That was something for which I was not prepared, so I parried with, "But he beat Concepcion only by a short head at Haydock and Coronation Year was getting 7 lb."

Then Mercer went on to say that he had been able to get at the colt properly only in recent weeks and that he had been coming on by leaps and bounds.

"I galloped him at the week-end with Wayside Singer," he said, "and the colt stuck to her all the way. It wants a pretty good two-year-old to do that, you know. And the old mare

is as genuine at home as on the racecourse." It so happened that I had never seen Coronation Year. He had made a first appearance at Newmarket in the spring, but I had no recollection of what he looked like in the paddock, and I never saw him in the race. He was always in the rear.

When the horses appeared in the parade ring for the Middle Park Stakes I began to wonder what the colt had looked like in the spring that I should have missed him.

OPPORTUNITY

With only five runners there was ample opportunity to take stock of them all. If it had been a parade for the show, I am sure Coronation Year would have been given serious consideration by the judges. I found him a well grown colt with a good top line, and standing on the best of legs and feet.

My reading of the race was that Coronation Year was in the lead for some way. He was then passed by Royal Challenger, but Coronation Year made a bold attempt to pass the leader going into the Dip.

Coronation Year could not sustain the effort up the hill, and had finished with half a furlong to go. The official placings show that Coronation Year was a length behind Darius, who was three-quarters of a length behind Royal Challenger.

Now arises the problem of what to make of the running in the Middle Park Stakes. I have previously suggested that to take it at its face value might be building on a false foundation. It was not a truly run race, and that is most unusual in what is one of the two-year-old classics.

IN ADVANCE

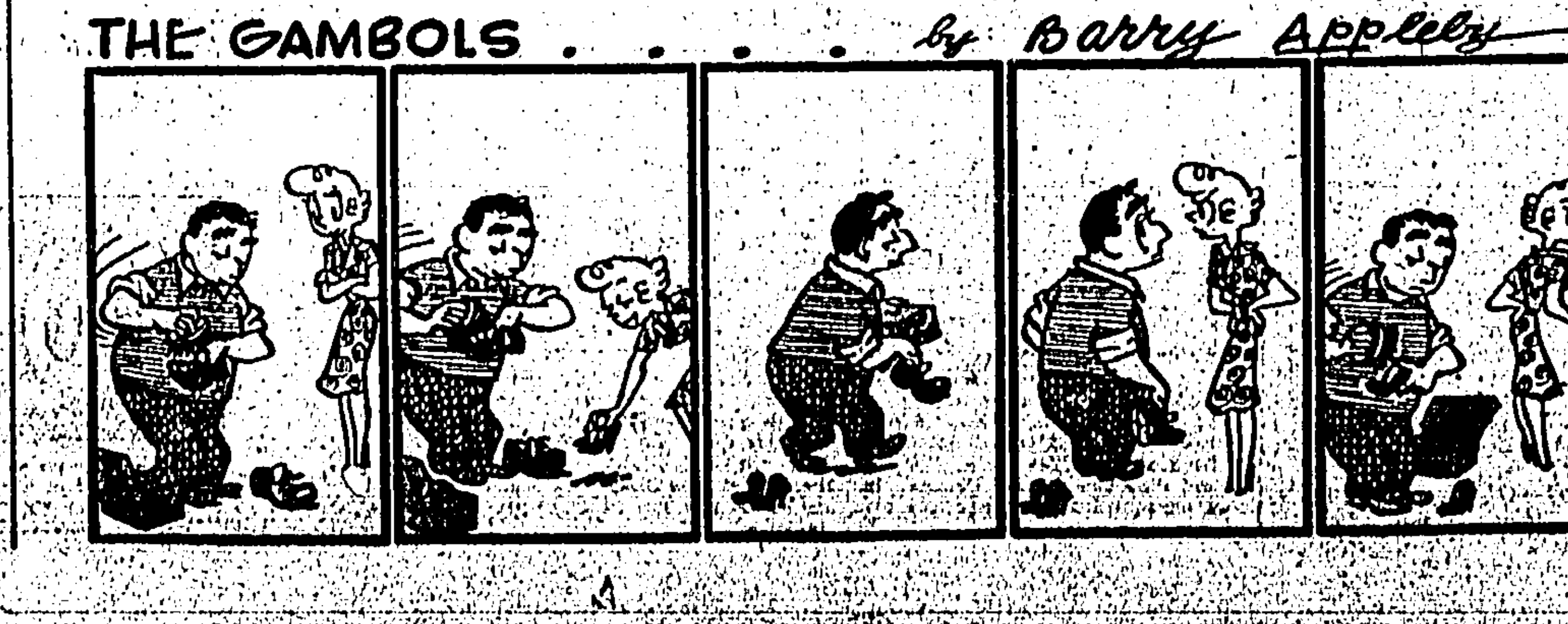
The form as it stands is well in advance of anything Coronation Year had shown in earlier races. Let me see how the handicapper has tackled it. Royal Challenger has to allow 2lb. to Darius for three-quarters of a length but 7lb. to Coronation Year for less than two lengths. Concepcion gets 13lb. for the short head beating by Coronation Year at Haydock and there was less than a fortnight's interval between the two races.

It does not add up as I would like it to do. Whether Coronation Year is flattered by the running in the Middle Park it is difficult to say. I like the colt as an individual and I am not going to crab him until he has had an opportunity to justify himself as a three-year-old.

NO DOUBT

Mercer and owner-breeder Mr. A. J. Thomas have no doubt at all that there is nothing the matter with the form in the Middle Park Stakes. It simply bore out what the colt had accomplished in his final gallop with Wayside Singer.

Coronation Year is a typical son of his sire, Pettition, and there is some resemblance in make, shape and colour. I notice Coronation Year was returned in the General Stud Book as a bay, but in one reference book he is called a brown, which is the colour of Pettition. Coronation Year is in the 2,000 Guineas, Derby, and St. Leger. His best chance of winning classic honours is in the last of the season's classic races. — (London Evening Standard)



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S. "ANCHISES"	Liverpool	25th Dec.
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Mother Of Siamese Twins



Boko and Tomu, the Siamese twins, joined by a bridge between chest and abdomen, were separated in a long and complicated operation taking over two hours at the Hammersmith Hospital in London. The operation was performed by Professor Aird, assisted by Mr. Selwyn Taylor. The mother, Mrs. Veronica Davies (above), brought her children to London for the operation and has been in and out of the hospital constantly since their arrival. She kissed the children and spoke to them before the operation commenced, and waited at the hospital to give some of her skin if necessary for plastic surgery.—Express Photo.

'World Calendar' Discussion By United Nations

Geneva, Dec. 15.

The United Nations is to discuss the introduction of a "World Calendar" as a universally adopted system of time measurement, to take the place of all existing calendars.

India, which alone has four major calendars for various sections of the country and a number of minor ones of strictly local character, has taken the lead in introducing this question before the United Nations.

She has asked that the matter be taken up at the next session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

The basic principle of the proposed "World Calendar" would be to iron out all the irregularities of the existing Gregorian Calendar, introduced by Pope Gregory XIII in about 1580.

The "World Calendar" as suggested by its sponsors, the World Calendar Association, would consist of four equal quarters each with 91 days. The first month of each quarter, January, April, July and October, would always have 31 days, and the remaining two months 30 days each.

This would give a yearly total of 364 days. To fill the gap, it is proposed to introduce a dateless day, to be known as "World Day" between December 30 and January 1 each year.

But since the world revolves on its axis once in just about 365 and one quarter days, an extra day, another "World Day," also having no specific date, would be included between June 30 and July 1 every four years.

This, as in present leap years, would account for the six hours or the quarter of a day lost each year.

would always fall on a Sunday and the end of the year would always be a Monday.

With the Quarters of equal length, each Quarter Day would be a Sunday.

Although some 17 countries have approved the proposed "World Calendar," many difficulties have to be overcome before it can be universally adopted. Not the least of these will be strong opposition from religious authorities in many parts of the world.

Speaking in favour of a "World Calendar," the British Astronomer Royal, Sir Harold Spencer Jones, declared in a lecture in London that the irregularities and defects in the present calendar "are the cause of much inconvenience to the business community as well as in normal civilian life."

"Different schemes of reform have been proposed. To my mind there is only one that is the calendar advocated by the World Calendar Association. This scheme is revolutionary in the sense that it has not entered into previous calendar schemes. But it should not be opposed on that ground."

"It provides a calendar of great simplicity in which the day of the week of any date of the year can be found mentally in a few seconds. This calendar is perpetual."

The present Gregorian Calendar and the proposed "World Calendar" coincide on Sunday, January 1, 1956. India suggests that that would be a convenient date for the change over.—China Mail Special.

SANTA CLAUS IN GAOL

Aarhus, Denmark, Dec. 15. Santa Claus was in gaol today for burglary.

Some days ago the Police surprised two burglars on house-breaking. One got away. The Police last night arrested a "Santa Claus" who was selling dolls on the market square. Under the cotton beard and red clothes they found the missing housebreaker.—United Press.

Australian Wool Sales Suggested For US

Boston, Dec. 15. Wool men here were not over enthusiastic about a suggestion put forward by a leading Australian breeder that an on-the-spot auction be established here to facilitate sales of Australian wool.

A United Press canvas showed that wool men felt generally that the idea, while having some advantages to US manufacturers by making wool readily available, would be too difficult to put into practice, and that the objection outweighs the merits.

A dispatch from Sydney reported that George Falkner in recommending the Boston auction, said that local dealers with limited capital would then not have to finance wool purchases from Australia. He also claimed that a Boston market would enable American manufacturers to get high quality wool with the same ease they now buy synthetic material.

Commenting on the Falkner proposal, George L. Anderson, President of Adams and Leland, wool merchants, said:

MAJOR OBJECTION

"The major objection to this proposal is that it involves shipping wool to the United States for storage. This brings up the question of the amount and quality of wool to be stored here. If American manufacturers wish to buy wool under the present system, they simply cable their bids and they have the whole Australian output to select from. But if the Australians shipped the wool here, the buyers would have only a small amount to select from because only a small percentage of the Australian crop is imported to the United States. Last year it was only 8 or 9 percent of the total."

The question also arises as to the advantage to the Australian grower. If he markets his wool in Australia, he has the world-market bidding for it. If the wool is auctioned here then there would be only American manufacturers competing for it. Furthermore, the grower would have to pay in advance the cost of shipping the wool here, storage charges, and there would be complications and delay in his getting paid. When he sells down there, the producer is paid in a matter of days. It might be months under this suggestion.—United Press.

The Rubber Markets

Singapore, Dec. 15. The market opened quiet and slightly easier but steadied during the day on good buying enquiry and sellers reserved.

Closing prices:
No. 1 rubber per lb. Dec. 57½-57½
No. 2 rubber per lb. Dec. 57½-57½
No. 4 rubber per lb. Dec. 57½-57½
Spot rubber unbleached 57½-57½
Blended crepe 57½-57½
No. 1 pale crepe 57½-57½

LONDON MARKET

London, Dec. 15. The rubber market was quietly steady with No. 1 Rs spot quoted at 17½ pence per lb.

Prices:
No. 1 Rs spot 17½-17½
Settlement house term: 17½-17½
Jan. 17½-17½
Feb. 17½-17½
March 17½-17½
April 17½-17½
May 17½-17½
June 17½-17½
July 17½-17½
Aug. 17½-17½
Sept. 17½-17½
Oct. 17½-17½
Nov. 17½-17½
Dec. 17½-17½
Estate crepe thick 17½-17½
Estate crepe thin 17½-17½

NEW YORK MARKET

New York, Dec. 15. Rubber futures today closed 15 to 25 points higher with sales of 21 contracts.

Covering orders in the July delivery, plus high cables and the activity in shipment offerings all combined to lift prices. Dealers bidding was a little more active in the spot market after futures closed, with spot No. 1 Rs going up to 20½ cents per pound. Future closings:

March 20.40
May 20.50
July 20.60
Sept. 20.70
Nov. 20.80
Dec. 20.90

AMSTERDAM MARKET

Amsterdam, Dec. 15. The rubber market was steady. Prices closed as follows (in guilders per kilogram):
No. 1 rubber Jan. 1.70
No. 2 rubber Jan. 1.65
No. 3 rubber Jan. 1.60
No. 1 rubber crepe 1.65

United Kingdom's Part In Financing C'wealth Development

The news that Ceylon and Malaya are shortly to raise loans in London has revived the debate on the part that Britain is playing—and should play—in financing the economic development of the Commonwealth.

A good deal of what is written and said on the subject of financing Commonwealth development flows from the belief that London has declined as a source of capital.

The Financial Editor of the Manchester Guardian points out, however, that there has been virtually no reduction this year in either the sum invested in the Commonwealth or in the proportion that this investment bears to the total amount of money raised in the London market.

During the first eleven months of this year, £41 million of securities were issued in London by overseas borrowers, or just 11 per cent of the total new capital raised in this market. Last year both amounts were very similar.

OVERSEAS INDUSTRIES

Most of this borrowing was done by Colonial Governments, but there is still a certain amount of capital being raised in London by overseas industries, especially mining ventures. However, the Manchester Guardian writer admits that "the great period of risk capital in the opening up and development of Commonwealth mining seems to be over for the present." Yet the need for development capital is as great as ever.

What part Britain can or should play in providing this capital is still a matter for debate.

The Manchester Guardian's Financial Editor makes this

contribution to the general discussion: At the present time, when consumption is high and home trade is keeping industry employed without any substantial slack, it would be folly to encourage or allow large overseas loans. But if the expected retail slump arrives after Christmas and affects production, the capital market will bear looking at again. Of course, if there is a substantial American recession the whole question will become acute. What is essential is that someone—and preferably the Government—should make room for any overseas investment that is being done.—London Express Service.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$341,903.80. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS
HSBC Bank 1500 1600 14 @ 1600

INSURANCES
Lombard 640 650 200 @ 65

Union Underwriters 200 @ 17½

SHIPPING
Asia New 1.17½ 200 @ 1.17½

DOCKERS, ETC.
K. Wharf 5 21.20 21½ 500 @ 21.30

Provident 12.70 12.80 2000 @ 12.80

Whitlock 11.80 12 850 @ 11.90

LAND, ETC.
HSBC Hotel 2500 @ 8½

HSBC Land 77 77½ 200 @ 77½

HSBC 137½ 138½ 100 @ 138

HSBC 138 138½ 100 @ 138½

UTILITIES
HSBC 20.20 20.40 300 @ 20.30

Star Ferry 145 15 @ 145

C. Light (O) 13.40 13.60 107 @ 13.40

C. Light (N) 10.20 10 @ 10.40

Telephone 20.70 20.90 500 @ 20.80

INDUSTRIALS
HSBC 18.80 18.90 400 @ 18.70

STOLES, ETC.
HSBC 24.10 1000 @ 24.10

Dairy Watson 20.60 21 500 @ 20.70

L. Crawford 24.60 24.90 500 @ 24.70

COTTONS
Textile Corp. 0.80 0.85 500 @ 0.75

10200 @ 0.80

MISCELLANEOUS
Yangtze 6.15

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:

U.S. dollar (per \$1) 6.77

Sterling note (per £1) 15.50

Indonesian rupiahs (per 100) 11.30

Siam, Szechuan (per 100) 20.30

Singapore (Straits) 1.77

Indo-China piastres (per 100) 7.50

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL

STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY

R.M.S. "CARTHAGE"

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS

SAILS:

Friday the 18th December at 12.00 noon for the UNITED KINGDOM via Straits, Colombo, Bombay, Aden and Port Said.

BAGGAGE:

Passengers are requested to send ALL baggage to the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Co.'s Godown at No. 2 Gate, CANTON ROAD, ENTRANCE, by NOON on Thursday, 17th December, 1953.

SPECIAL NOTE:

With the exception of hand packages carried by passengers themselves, ALL BAGGAGE must pass through the Wharf Co.'s Godown for loading on board by ship's alls only.

BAGGAGE COPIES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE WHARF.

EMBARKATION:

Passengers should embark between 9.30 and 11.00 a.m. on Friday, 18th December.

US DOLLAR BONDS OFFER

Washington, Dec. 15. The World Bank expects to offer a \$100 million issue of United States dollar bonds on or about January 12, 1954. Mr. Eugene Black, President of the Bank, has announced.

Mr. Black said the maturity of the new issue was expected to be about 15 years. "The exact maturity, and the price and interest rate for the issue, will be determined in the light of market conditions prevailing at the time of the offering," he added.

The bonds will be offered through an underwriting syndicate managed by the First Boston Corporation and Morgan Stanley and Co.—Reuter.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York, Dec. 15. The stock market registered its eighth successive decline today but it was tempered by a late rally paced by the industrials.

General Electric selling ex-dividend, nevertheless ran up 1½ points to \$87 to feature the industrials.

Activity on the downside picked up on the late rally. Sales for the day amounted to 1,480,000 shares compared with 1,540,000 yesterday.

Commentators attributed the late improvement to reinvestment of year-end dividend payments which is common at the year end when the market traditionally had a recovery.

Steels were little changed.

Tobacco shares were steadier after their renewed setbacks. Only Reynolds "B" dropped sharply—losing ½ to \$37½.

Of the 1,149 issues traded today, 355 were lower with 98 at new lows.—United Press.

DOW JONES AVERAGES

New York, Dec. 15. Dow Jones closing averages on Wall Street were as follows:

30 Industrials 270.22
20 Rails 83.73
15 Utilities 35.02
65 Stocks 106.20
49 Bonds 77.10
Comm. future price index 153.10
—United Press.

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JOHN CLARKE'S
CASEBOOK

Another Start

MICK'S parents died when he was three, and all his boyhood was spent in orphanages and other kinds of institutions. When he was old enough, he was put into a hostel, and a job was found for him.

"Now, by working hard, you have the chance of repaying society for all the trouble it has gone to bring you up," they said to him. They may not have used those very words, but that was the theme of the little lay sermons constantly being preached at him.

Those sermons hurt. They sometimes made it seem that he in infancy had caused his parents' death; they always rubbed salt in the wound his upbringing had caused to his independence of spirit.

A DIFFERENCE

THIS spirit of independence was stronger in Mick than in most boys who had been brought up in institutions. He differed from them. They came mostly from crowded English cities. He was born in Ottawa, and but for the accident of being so early orphaned, might have grown up a Canadian.

Mick's first job was as a motor-mechanic. When he had been at it a year, he quit, wanting something more adventurous. He joined the Army as a band boy. He served for two years, until this summer when he was discharged as medically unfit. He has not worked since then, but has lived, he says, on his savings.

The other night, it began to look as if Mick had discovered a new way of making a living.

WHEN HE WAS 15

TWO policemen trailed him as he strolled through side-streets in the West End, trying the door-handles of parked cars in which coats and cases had been left.

Next morning, Mick was brought into the dock at Bow Street, and there, running a hand through his thick, curly black hair, he pleaded guilty to the charge against him of loitering with intent to steal from the cars.

"This boy is 19 years old," a police officer told Sir Laurence Dunne, the Chief Magistrate, "and there is one finding of guilt against him as a juvenile. When he was 15, he was one of a crowd of boys fined for stealing 15 fox detectors from the railway."

THE ARMY

SIR LAURENCE asked: "What time of year was that?"

The officer looked through his file. "November," he said.

"Ah," said the Chief Magistrate, "about the 5th?"

"Probably, sir." The officer continued with Mick's story. "Have you any people over here at all?" Sir Laurence asked Mick, when the story was done.

"No, sir," said Mick.

"What was the trouble that made you leave the Army?"

"Stomach, sir."

"All right now," Mick said.

"Like to go back to the Army?" Sir Laurence asked.

"No, sir."

"I see, that sort of stomach," the Chief Magistrate said drily.

BACK AGAIN

HE went on: "Well, look here. Whatever happens, you mustn't do this sort of thing again. There's a place called Borstal, you know. What I'm going to do is to get the doctors to look at you, then we'll try to get you a job." He signalled to Mr. Badger, the probation officer. "Think you'll be able to do something about a job?" he asked.

Mr. Badger rose. "I think I could get him into a hostel," he began.

Mick closed his eyes, letting the lids fall with slow eloquence. A hostel. A job to be found for him. Once more he would be in society's debt. He went out. "This," his expression said, "is not his voice, 'is where I came in'."

'Who's Her Line?' Solution
UNFOLDS HERE
London Express Service

CHINA MAIL

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Page 10

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1953.

SHEAFFER'S
ADMIRAL
NEW
"SNORKEL"
PEN
HK\$24.50

Rioting Students Demand Resignation Of French Minister

Paris, Dec. 15.

Three thousand students, many of them spattered with blood after clashes with steel-helmeted police in the Latin Quarter of Paris, tonight called on M. Andre Marie, the Minister of Education, to resign.

They were protesting against cuts in the 1954 education programme.

Chanting "Resign Marie" the students crowded in a narrow street near the headquarters of the French National Students Union after holding up traffic in the Latin Quarter for over an hour. More than 1,000 policemen and security guards armed with rifles went to the scene.

The Secretary General of the Students Union, Roger Audebert, told students on their return to the Union's headquarters that "France's intellectuals, once honoured as the elite of the nation, are now being treated by the Government in a despicable fashion."

A Socialist deputy, M. Maurice Deixonne, promised to raise the question of police brutality and reduced credits for the Education Ministry in the Assembly.

The Education Ministry recently proposed 170 million francs (about £170,000 sterling) for 1954, for "total development" instead of the 1,500 million francs (about £1,500,000 sterling) proposed by education experts.

The Union later published a communique protesting against police brutality towards a "peaceful and dignified students meeting."—Reuter.

Rhee's New Decision

Seoul, Dec. 16.

President Syngman Rhee today extended his deadline for observing the armistice agreement and alleviated fears that he would take unilateral action against the Communists on January 27.

He told a press conference that he would observe the armistice for 90 days after the start of the Korean political conference regardless of when it convenes.

President Rhee's statement today is a complete switch from his previous stand, which was reiterated only yesterday by Foreign Minister Pyun Yung Tai.

Mr. Pyun told correspondents there was "no change in the Republic of Korea's promise to observe the armistice for only six months after the signing of the truce agreement—that is until January 27."

Mr. Pyun said South Korea would not "sit and wait" but would "take some action."—Reuter.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. Signal and Programme Summary: 6.03, Lucky Dip—Variety Requests presented by Margherita (Studio); 6.59, Weather Report; 7, Time Signal, World News and a Talk on the News (London relay); 7.45, Orchestra of the Week—The London Baroque Orch. cond. by Karl Blum; 8.30, News from America; 8.45, Allstar Crooke (Recorded, London Relay); 9, Annual Review of the Hongkong Governor Sir Alexander Grantham, G.C.M.G. (Recorded, OBI); 9.30, News from America; 10, Concert, Italy; 10.30, Time Signal, Wednesday Theatre—"The Government Inspector" by Nikolai Gogol, Translated by Constance Garnett, Produced by Mary Hope Allen (BBC); 11, One Night Stand—Billy May and his Orchestra; 10.59, Weather Report; 11, Time Signal, Radio News Ties (Recorded, London Relay); 11.15, Goodnight Music, God Save the Queen; 11.50, Close Down.

ANGLO-CHINESE TRADE LEVY PROPOSAL TURNED DOWN

London, Dec. 15.

The British Government today turned down a suggestion that a small levy should be put on all future Anglo-Chinese trade to recoup losses of British capital in China.

Mr. Cyril Osborne, a Conservative, who made the proposal in the House of Commons, asked what the Foreign Secretary had done to recover British capital lost in China which he estimated at between £200 million and £250 million sterling.

Mr. Osborne also asked how much had been recovered.

Mr. Anthony Nutting, Foreign Under-Secretary, replied: "British property in China is divided into two categories

of physical assets and investments in Chinese bonds. The former were largely lost during the years of Japanese aggression. They were recovered in 1945 and are now earning in various ways because of the difficulties of operating in China at the present time including re-questioning by the Chinese Government."

"As regards bonds nearly all payments have ceased since 1938."

Mr. Nutting said: "I cannot accept as accurate the figures quoted in Mr. Osborne's question."

The Government made representations to the Chinese Government; but so far no compensation has been paid in respect of expropriation and there has been no easement of the difficulties imposed.

"Nevertheless the Foreign Secretary could not agree to the suggestion made in the third part of Mr. Osborne's question (about levy). The Government will, however, continue to do all they can to protect British interests in China."—Reuter.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"That electric hedgecutter you bought cost lots more than those beauty-shop bills! Isn't my face better than an old hedge?"

Three Found Not Guilty On Robbery Charges

Found not guilty of robbery with aggravation, three men were discharged by Judge J. Reynolds in the Victoria District Court this morning.

The accused who were alleged to have robbed Leung Yu-cho of \$10 on January 17, 1953, were Kwan Sung-hin, 36, herbalist, Cheng Choi-kuen, 45, and Yuen Yick-kai, 42, both unemployed.

The first two accused were defended by Mr. A. el Arculli, but third accused was not legally represented.

The Prosecuting Officer, Chief Inspector W. Eggleston, told the Court that about 10 p.m. on January 17 last the three accused approached complainant whilst the latter was walking along Shum Chun Street in Mongkok. Complainant had known the three men before this date.

It was alleged by the Crown that the three accused then struck complainant a blow in the chest and after intimidating him searched and extracted a \$10 note from his pocket. Whilst this was going on, it was alleged that the first two accused kept watch.

Giving corroborative evidence, the complainant, Leung Yu-cho said that after third accused had struck him, he was asked to join a certain society. He refused, saying he did not have the money.

He was then searched, complainant went on, and while this was proceeding, the first two accused were some 10 to 12 feet away. He said that during the whole of the alleged incident, the first two accused never spoke to him.

AFRAID TO REPORT

He was frightened and after the incident went home. Complainant said that he left home that night for a stroll and if he came across a good bargain, to purchase a singlet and a pair of shorts. He did not report to the Police because he was afraid the men might take revenge on him.

He denied a suggestion that his story was untrue. He agreed that night was cold, but he went out not so much for a stroll but in order to buy a singlet.

In a submission of no case to answer in respect of the first two accused, Mr. Arculli said even if the story of the complainant was true, there was no evidence of common purpose.

Complainant's evidence was vague about the first two accused at the time of the alleged hold-up. Further, there was no evidence that the two men took any part.

Upholding Mr. Arculli's submission, his Honour said that there was no evidence of common intent. The evidence of the complainant implicating the first two accused was so vague that the case could not go to a jury—it was a trial by Judge and Jury. His Honour then formally discharged the two accused.

JUDGE'S ADVICE

Judge Reynolds went on to say that with regard to the third accused, it would be necessary to amend the charge to one of simple robbery if he found he had a case to answer.

An application to so amend the charge was granted.

After the third accused elected to give evidence on oath, Judge Reynolds suggested that in view of the evidence of the Crown his best course might be to say nothing. Third accused said he would accept his Honour's suggestion.

FRANCO-US DIVERGENCIES

(Continued from Page 1)

East or elsewhere are given as reasons why it would be militarily unwise indefinitely to tie down a fixed number of troops in any part of the world.

Observers say this does not mean that Britain has any intention of striking her part in Western defence. On the contrary, she considers herself irrevocably caught up in it and is therefore anxious to see it reaches the maximum efficiency with German participation.

Seven Receive Decorations At Today's Annual Police Parade

Seven members of the Hongkong Police Force were this morning presented with medals by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, GCMG, when he carried out the annual inspection of the Force in the Racecourse, Happy Valley.

Among the recipients of decorations was Det.-Cpl Leung Yiu-tong, who was awarded the George Medal for bravery. He is the third holder in the Force of this high award.

The parade was under the command of the Commissioner, Mr A. C. Maxwell, and presented an extremely smart appearance as it lined the centre of the Racecourse from north to south.

A large and distinguished gathering watched the parade from special enclosures, while members of the general public were accommodated in the Jockey Club stands.

At 10.25 a.m. Lady Grantham arrived and was escorted to her seat.

The Governor, dressed in full ceremonial uniform with white and red plumed helmet and sword, arrived promptly at 10.30 a.m., accompanied by his ADC, Mr B. F. Slewin. He was escorted to the saluting base by Mr A. E. Shaw, Hon. ADC.

On the arrival of His Excellency, the Commissioner gave the order "Royal Salute—Present Arms," and the Police Band, attired in white ceremonial, played one verse of the National Anthem.

Following the Royal Salute, the Governor, accompanied by Mr Maxwell and the ADCs, then inspected the contingents on parade.

RECIPIENTS

After the inspection, His Excellency returned to the Saluting Base where he presented medals to the following officers: C.M.E. Civil Officer of the British Empire—Mr T. O. T'ao, Assistant Commissioner, Police Reserve.

George Medal—Detective Corporal 622 Leung Yiu-tong.

Kings' Police Medal—Mr P. I. M. Irwin, Assistant Commissioner, Police Medal—Mr E. S. Brooks, Assistant Superintendent; Mr O. F. Bower, Assistant Superintendent; Mr H. W. E. Heath, Assistant Commissioner; and Mr A. A. Shaw, Acting Senior Superintendent.

The citations accompanying the awards were read by the Commissioner, Mr Maxwell, and then translated in Chinese by a Police Inspector.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

The Governor then addressed the parade. He said:

"The departure of Mr MacIntosh was a great loss which was felt by each and everyone of us, but that is the Hong Kong Police Force and the Colony generally are fortunate in having as the new Commissioner Mr Maxwell, who had proved himself as a most able Deputy Commissioner for nearly four years before he was appointed Commissioner. He also acted as Commissioner for eight months in 1951 when some delay and difficult problems arose. These he handled in a masterly way. In short, the Force is under a thoroughly capable leader."

"On a number of previous occasions when I have addressed you I have stated that not only should you be vigilant in your duties as laid down in orders and regulations and in dealing with law breakers, but that you should also act in such a manner towards the public that the members of the public would come to look on you as their friend, as well as their protector. There has been a constant and steady improvement in this respect over the years so that it has now become almost second nature to you. I know that there are some who do not behave towards the public as they should, and like to set themselves up as little dictators or bullies. I know too that there are cases of corruption in the Force. But these traitors to the Force, as indeed they are, are a small minority, a very small minority."

PUBLIC'S FRIEND

"That the public does regard the policeman as its friend is borne out by the fact that during the past year 80,000 reports in which no offence was disclosed were made to the Police. These reports were of such things as domestic disputes, small arguments and differences of opinion; things in which the advice and guidance of a friend is sought. The friend in these 80,000 cases was one or other of you; a remarkable tribute to you. The number of arrests made by members of the public also increased by 15%: a further indication that they are on your side because they have trust in you. At the same time there was a new low record of disciplinary offences committed by members of the Force."

"This is all most satisfactory. But don't become complacent and self-satisfied. The temptation to do so is made greater by the fact that the past year has been one of comparative serenity. In such circumstances it is human nature to slacken off a bit. Don't you do it. If you are aware of the danger, and now I have told you, you are aware of it even if you weren't before, you are unlikely to be caught by it."

"I therefore have every confidence that you will continue to maintain your high standards in all respects. Certainly from what I have seen of you in your various activities, both on duty and off duty, there has been no letting up. You are as smart and efficient as ever you were."

UP TO ESTABLISHMENT

"For the first time since re-occupation the Force is up to establishment. This will make it possible for more advanced training to be given to all ranks. I shall therefore look forward to a still better Force in the future. I know that that is asking a lot, but you will, I am sure, not fail to respond to the challenge."

"I have noticed with pleasure that the integration into the Regular Force of the Auxiliaries, that is, the Police Reserve, and the Special Constabulary, steadily continues. I am glad too to learn that their efficiency has also improved. The Colony is indeed indebted to these citizen policemen, officers and men of the Hongkong Police Force, the Hongkong Police Reserve and the Hongkong Special Constabulary, the smartness of today's parade is a fitting culmination to a very successful year and one and all to be congratulated on what you have done."

At the conclusion of the Governor's speech, the various contingents taking part in the parade marched past the Saluting Base in the following order:

1, Hongkong Command under Mr A. R. S. Major, Assistant Commissioner; 2, Kowloon Command under Mr P. I. M. Irwin, Assistant Commissioner; 3, The Police Reserve under Mr T. O. T'ao, Assistant Commissioner (Reserve); 4, The Special Constabulary under Mr E. C. Van Helden, Deputy Commandant; 5, Transport Contingent under Mr D. B. Smith, Staff Officer (Transport).

Barge Without Lights

Yuen On, 42, in charge of the salvage barge, HWD Tessa, was fined \$30 by Mr A. G. Parker at the Marine Court this morning when he admitted he had failed to display navigation lights.

The Prosecution said that while on patrol on the night of November 20, Sub-Inspr. A. Evans found that defendant's barge was moored off the Kowloon Dock without showing any navigation lights. There was a lamp at the stern of the barge and two at the bow, but both were extinguished.

In mitigation, Yuen said that the strong wind have probably caused the lights to go out. Before he went to bed at about 9.30 p.m. he had checked the lights which were then on.

Robbers Caught

A congee-hawker in Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon City, was attacked by two men who took \$10 off him in the early hours of this morning. A passer-by chased and caught one of the men while Police investigations led to the arrest of the second and the recovery of the money.

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Mail Notices

The latest times of posting are shown below for those for registered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest times for ordinary mail are shown in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times, can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

By Air
Japan, 6 p.m.
Formosa, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Macao, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

By Air
India, Ceylon, 9 a.m.
Thailand, Burma, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 10 a.m.

By Surface
Japan, noon
Formosa, noon
Indo-China, noon

By Surface
Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A. & Canada, 1 p.m.

By Surface
Philippines, North Borneo, 6 p.m.
Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.

By Surface
Formosa, Okinawa, Japan, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 p.m.

By Surface
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m.
Philippines, noon

By Surface
Macao, 2 p.m.
Thailand, Burma, India, Aden, Middle East, Great Britain & Europe, 3 p.m.

By Surface
Japan, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 p.m.
Indo-China, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

Thailand, Burma, India, Ceylon, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 10 a.m.

By Surface
Formosa, Japan, Korea, 1 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 p.m.
Indo-China, 6 p.m.

By Surface
Macao, 6 p.m.

By Surface
Thailand, Burma, India, Ceylon, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 10 a.m.

By Surface
Formosa, Japan, Korea, 1 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 p.m.
Indo-China, 6 p.m.

By Surface
Macao, 6 p.m.

By Surface
Thailand, Burma, India, Ceylon, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 10 a.m.

By Surface
Formosa, Japan, Korea, 1 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 p.m.
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